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10450 U.S. PTO

PATENT

Docket No. F-5489

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10525 U.S. PTO
09/30/504
09/03/99

Box Patent Application

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

NEW APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application of

Inventor(s): Thomas Westberg; Rohit Vishnoi and Mark Vandlik

WARNING: Patent must be applied for in the name(s) of all of the actual inventor(s). 37 CFR 1.41(a) and 1.53(b).

For (title): **Blood Separation Systems and Methods Using Multiple
Function Pump Station to Perform Different On-Line Processing Tasks**

1. Type of Application

This new application is for a(n) (check one applicable item below):

- ☒ Original
☐ Design
☐ Plant

WARNING: Do not use this transmittal for a completion in the U.S. of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4) unless the International Application is being filed as a divisional, continuation or continuation-in-part application.

NOTE: If one of the following 3 items apply then complete and attach ADDED PAGES FOR NEW APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL WHERE BENEFIT OF A PRIOR U.S. APPLICATION CLAIMED and a NOTIFICATION IN PARENT APPLICATION OF THE FILING OF THIS CONTINUATION APPLICATION.

- ☐ Divisional
☐ Continuation
☐ Continuation-in-part (CIP)

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

I hereby certify that this New Application Transmittal and the documents referred to as enclosed therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on this date September 3, 1999 in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Mailing Label Number EL4284854861US addressed to the: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Judith Biebel

(type or print name of person mailing paper)

(Signature of person mailing paper)

NOTE: Each paper or fee referred to as enclosed herein has the number of the "Express Mail" mailing label placed thereon prior to mailing. 37 CFR 1.10(b).

2. Benefit of Prior U.S. Application(s) (35 USC 120)

NOTE: *If the new application being transmitted is a divisional, continuation or a continuation-in-part of a parent case, or where the parent case is an International Application which designated the U.S., then check the following item and complete and attach ADDED PAGES FOR NEW APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL WHERE BENEFIT OF PRIOR U.S. APPLICATION(S) CLAIMED.*

- ☐ The new application being transmitted claims the benefit of prior U.S. application(s) and enclosed are ADDED PAGES FOR NEW APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL WHERE BENEFIT OF PRIOR U.S. APPLICATION(S) CLAIMED.

3. Papers Enclosed Which Are Required For Filing Date Under 37 CFR 1.53(b) (Regular) or 37 CFR 1.153 (Design) Application

129 Pages of specification

11 Pages of claims

1 Pages of Abstract

43 Sheets of drawing

☐ formal

☒ informal

WARNING: *DO NOT submit original drawings. A high quality copy of the drawings should be supplied when filing a patent application. The drawings that are submitted to the Office must be on strong, white, smooth, and non-shiny paper and meet the standards according to § 1.84. If corrections to the drawings are necessary, they should be made to the original drawing and a high-quality copy of the corrected original drawing then submitted to the Office. Only one copy is required or desired. Comments on proposed new 37 CFR 1.84. Notice of March 9, 1988 (1990 O.G. 57-62).*

NOTE: *Identifying indicia such as the serial number, group and unit, title of the invention, attorney's docket number, inventor's name, number of sheets, etc., not to exceed 23/4 inches (7.0 cm.) in width may be placed in a centered location between the side edges within three fourths inch (19.1 mm.) of the top edge. Either this marking technique on the front of the drawing or the placement, although not preferred, of this information and the title of the invention on the back of the drawings is acceptable." Proposed 37 CFR 1.84(1). Notice of March 9, 1988 (1090 O.G. 57-62).*

4. Additional papers enclosed

- ☐ Preliminary Amendment
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (37 CFR 1.98)
- ☐ Form PTO-1449
- ☐ Citations
- ☐ Declaration of Biological Deposit
- ☐ Submission of "Sequence Listing," computer readable copy and/or amendment pertaining thereto for biotechnology invention containing nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence.
- ☐ Authorization of Attorney(s) to Accept and Follow Instructions from Representative
- ☐ Special Comments
- ☐ Other

5. Declaration or oath

☐ Enclosed

executed by *(check all applicable boxes)*

☐ inventor(s).

☐ legal representative of inventor(s). 37 CFR 1.42 or 1.43

☐ joint inventor or person showing a proprietary interest on behalf of inventor who refused to sign or cannot be reached.

☐ this is the petition required by 37 CFR 1.47 and the statement required by 37 CFR 1.47 is also attached. *See item 13 below for fee.*

☒ Not Enclosed.

WARNING: *Where the filing is a completion in the U.S. of an International Application but where a declaration is not available or where the completion of the U.S. application contains subject matter in addition to the International Application the application may be treated as a continuation or continuation-in-part, as the case may be, utilizing ADDED PAGE FOR NEW APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL WHERE BENEFIT OF PRIOR U.S. APPLICATION CLAIMED.*

☒ Application is made by a person authorized under 37 CFR 1.41(c) on behalf of all the above named inventor(s). (The declaration or oath, along with the surcharge required by 37 CFR 1.16(E) can be filed subsequently).

NOTE: *It is important that all the correct inventor(s) are named for filing under 37 CFR 1.41(c) and 1.53(b).*

☐ Showing that the filing is authorized. *(Not required unless called into question. 37 CFR 1.41(d)).*

6. Inventorship Statement

WARNING: *If the named inventors are each not the inventors of all the claims an explanation, including the ownership of the various claims at the time the last claimed invention was made, should be submitted.*

The inventorship for all the claims in this application are:

☒ The same

or

☐ Are not the same. An explanation, including the ownership of the various claims at the time the last claimed invention was made,

☐ is submitted.

☐ will be submitted.

7. Language

NOTE: *An application including a signed oath or declaration may be filed in a language other than English. A verified English translation of the non-English language application and the processing fee of \$130.00 required by 37 CFR 1.17(k) is required to be filed with the application or within such time as may be set by the Office. 37 CFR 1.52(d).*

NOTE: *A non-English oath or declaration in the form provided or approved by the PTO need not be translated. 37 CFR 1.69(b).*

☒ English

☐ non-English

☐ the attached translation is a verified translation. 37 CFR 1.52(d).

8. Assignment

- ☒ An assignment of the invention to Baxter International Inc.
- ☐ is attached. A separate ☐ "COVER SHEET FOR ASSIGNMENT (DOCUMENT) ACCOMPANYING NEW PATENT APPLICATION" or ☐ FORM PTO 1595 is also attached.
- ☒ will follow.

NOTE: "If an assignment is submitted with a new application, send two separate letters-one for the application and one for the assignment." Notice of May 4, 1990 (1114 O.G. 77-78).

WARNING: A newly executed "CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 3.73(b)" must be filed when a continuation-in-part application is filed by an assignee. Notice of April 30, 1993, 1150 O.G. 62-64.

9. Certified Copy

Certified copy(ies) of application(s)

(country)	(appln. no.)	(filed)
(country)	(appln. no.)	(filed)
(country)	(appln. no.)	(filed)

from which priority is claimed

- ☐ is(are) attached.
- ☐ will follow.

NOTE: The foreign application forming the basis for the claim for priority must be referred to in the oath or declaration. 37 CFR 1.55(A) AND 1.63.

NOTE: This item is for any foreign priority for which the application being filed directly relates. If any parent U.S. application or International Application from which this application claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. 120 is itself entitled to priority from a prior foreign application then complete item 18 on the ADDED PAGES FOR NEW APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL WHERE BENEFIT OF PRIOR U.S. APPLICATION(S) CLAIMED.

10. Fee Calculation (37 CFR 1.16)

- A. ☒ Regular application

CLAIMS AS FILED						
Number filed		Number Extra		Rate	Basic Fee 37 CFR 1.16(a) \$760.00	
Total Claims (37 CFR 1.16(c))	46	-20 =	26	X	\$ 18.00	468.00
Independent Claims (37 CFR 1.16(b))	4	-3 =	1	X	\$78.00	78.00
Multiple dependent claim(s), if any (37 CFR 1.16(d))				+	\$260.00	

- ☐ Amendment cancelling extra claims enclosed.
- ☐ Amendment deleting multiple-dependencies enclosed.
- ☐ Fee for extra claims is not being paid at this time.

NOTE: If the fees for extra claims are not paid on filing they must be paid or the claims cancelled by amendment, prior to the expiration of the time period set for response by the Patent and Trademark Office in any notice of fee deficiency. 37 CFR 1.16(d).

Filing Fee Calculation \$ 1306.00

- B. ☐ Design application
(\$330.00-37 CFR 1.16(f))

Filing Fee Calculation \$ _____

- C. ☐ Plant application
(\$540.00-37 CFR 1.16(g))

Filing fee calculation \$ _____

11. Small Entity Statement(s)

- ☐ Verified Statement(s) that this is a filing by a small entity under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27 is(are) attached.

Filing Fee Calculation (50% of A, B or C above) \$ _____

NOTE: Any excess of the full fee paid will be refunded if a verified statement and a refund request are filed within 2 months of the date of timely payment of a full fee. 37 CFR 1.28(a).

12. Request for International-Type Search (37 CFR 1.104(d)) (complete, if applicable)

- ☐ Please prepare an international-type search report for this application at the time when national examination on the merits takes place.

13. Fee Payment Being Made At This Time

- ☒ Not Enclosed

☒ No filing fee is to be paid at this time. (This and the surcharge required by 37 CFR 1.16(e) can be paid subsequently.)

- ☐ Enclosed

☐ basic filing fee \$ _____

☐ recording assignment
(\$40.00; 37 CFR 1.21(h))(See attached "COVER SHEET FOR ASSIGNMENT ACCOMPANYING NEW APPLICATION".) \$ _____

☐ petition fee for filing by other than all the inventors or person on behalf of the inventor where inventor refused to sign or cannot be reached. (\$130.00; 37 CFR 1.47 and 1.17(h)) \$ _____

☐ for processing an application with a specification in a non-English language. (\$130.00; 37 CFR 1.52(d) and 1.17(k)) \$ _____

☐ processing and retention fee (\$130.00; 37 CFR 1.53(d) and 1.21(l))

☐ fee for international-type search report (\$40.00; 37 CFR 1.21(e)). \$ _____

NOTE: 37 CFR 1.21(l) establishes a fee for processing and retaining any application which is abandoned for failing to complete the application pursuant to 37 CFR 1.53(d) and this, as well as the changes to 37 CFR 1.53 and 1.78, indicate that in order to obtain the benefit of a prior U.S. application, either the basic filing fee must be paid or the processing and retention fee of § 1.21(l) must be paid within 1 year from notification under § 53(d).

Total fees enclosed \$ - 0 -

14. Method of Payment of Fees

- ☐ Check in the amount of \$ ____.
- ☐ Charge Account No. ____ in the amount of \$ _____. A duplicate of this transmittal is attached.

NOTE: Fees should be itemized in such a manner that it is clear for which purpose the fees are paid. 37 CFR 1.22(b).

15. Authorization to Charge Additional Fees

WARNING: If no fees are to be paid on filing the following items should not be completed.

WARNING: Accurately count claims, especially multiple dependent claims, to avoid unexpected high charges, if extra claim charges are authorized.

- ☐ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the following additional fees by this paper and during the entire pendency of this application to Account No. ____
- ☐ 37 CFR 1.16(a), (f) or (g) (filing fees)
- ☐ 37 CFR 1.16(b), (c) and (d) (presentation of extra claims)

NOTE: Because additional fees for excess or multiple dependent claims not paid on filing or on later presentation must only be paid or these claims cancelled by amendment prior to the expiration of the time period set for response by the PTO in any notice of fee deficiency (37 CFR 1.16(d)), it might be best not to authorize the PTO to charge additional claim fees, except possibly when dealing with amendments after final action.

- ☐ 37 CFR 1.16(e) (surcharge for filing the basic filing fee and/or declaration on a date later than the filing date of the application)
- ☐ 37 CFR 1.17 (application processing fees)

WARNING: While 37 CFR 1.17(A), (b), (c) and (d) deal with extensions of time under § 1.136(A) this authorization should be made only with the knowledge that: "submission of the appropriate extension fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(A) is to no avail unless a request or petition for extension is filed." (Emphasis added). Notice of November 5, 1985 (1060 O.G.27).

- ☐ 37 CFR 1.18 (issue fee at or before mailing of Notice of Allowance, pursuant to 37 CFR 1.311(b))

NOTE: Where an authorization to charge the issue fee to a deposit account has been filed before the mailing of a Notice of Allowance, the issue fee will be automatically charged to the deposit account at the time of mailing the notice of allowance. 37 CFR 1.311(b).

NOTE: 37 CFR 1.28(b) requires "Notification of any change in loss of entitlement to small entity status must be filed in the application ... prior to paying, or at the time of paying, ... issue fee". From the wording of 37 CFR 1.28(b): (a) notification of change of status must be made even if the fee is paid as "other than a small entity" and (b) no notification is required if the change is to another small entity.

16. Instructions As To Overpayment

- ☐ credit Account No. _____
- ☐ refund

SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY

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(type or print name of attorney)

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☐ **Incorporation by reference of added pages**

Check the following item if the application in this transmittal claims the benefit of prior U.S. application(s) (including an international application entering the U.S. stage as a continuation, divisional or C-I-P application) and complete and attach the ADDED PAGES FOR NEW APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL WHERE BENEFIT OF PRIOR U.S. APPLICATION(S) CLAIMED

- ☐ Plus Added Pages For New Application Transmittal Where Benefit Of Prior U.S. Application(s) Claimed

Number of pages added _____

- ☐ Plus Added Pages For Papers Referred To In Item 4 Above

Number of pages added _____

- ☐ Plus "Assignment Cover Letter Accompanying New Application"

Number of pages added _____

☒ **Statement Where No Further Pages Added**

(If no further pages form a part of this Transmittal then end this Transmittal with this page and check the following item)

- ☒ This transmittal ends with this page.

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Patent

Docket No. F-5489

BLOOD SEPARATION SYSTEMS AND METHODS
USING A MULTIPLE FUNCTION PUMP STATION
TO PERFORM DIFFERENT ON-LINE PROCESSING TASKS

Field of the Invention

5 This invention relates to systems and methods for
processing and collecting blood, blood constituents, or
other suspensions of cellular material.

Background of the Invention

10 Today people routinely separate whole blood,
usually by centrifugation, into its various therapeutic
components, such as red blood cells, platelets, and plasma.

 Conventional blood processing methods use durable
centrifuge equipment in association with single use, sterile
processing systems, typically made of plastic. The operator
15 loads the disposable systems upon the centrifuge before
processing and removes them afterwards.

 Conventional blood centrifuges are of a size that
does not permit easy transport between collection sites.
Furthermore, loading and unloading operations can sometimes
20 be time consuming and tedious.

 In addition, a need exists for further improved
systems and methods for collecting blood components in a way
that lends itself to use in high volume, on line blood
collection environments, where higher yields of critically
25 needed cellular blood components, like plasma, red blood

cells, and platelets, can be realized in reasonable short processing times.

The operational and performance demands upon such fluid processing systems become more complex and sophisticated, even as the demand for smaller and more portable systems intensifies. The need therefore exists for automated blood processing controllers that can gather and generate more detailed information and control signals to aid the operator in maximizing processing and separation efficiencies.

Summary of the Invention

The invention provides systems and methods for processing blood and blood constituents that lend themselves to portable, flexible processing platforms equipped with straightforward and accurate control functions.

More particularly, the invention provides blood separation systems and methods, which employ a multiple function pump station to perform different on-line processing tasks. For example, a pump station that is operated in one mode to draw blood from a donor can, in another mode, be operated to return blood to the donor. As other examples, the pump station used to draw blood from a donor can also be used to perform subsequent blood processing tasks, such as mixing processing or additive fluids with the blood, or transferring a harvested blood component to a storage container, or finishing the processing of a harvested blood component, e.g., by passage through a filter to remove leukocytes.

The provision of a multiple function pump station makes consolidation of different processing tasks possible, and leads to a reduction in the overall size and complexity of a blood separation system. The use of a multiple function pump station also makes possible the performance of different blood processing procedures using the same blood separation system.

According to one aspect of the invention, a blood processing system and related method provides a donor flow channel to convey fluid to and from a donor, a blood processing flow channel including a blood separation chamber to separate a blood component from donor blood, and a blood component collection flow channel including a blood component collection container. A multiple function pump station communicates with all these flow channels. The pump station is operated in multiple modes. In a processing mode, the pump station is operated to convey blood in the donor flow channel into the blood processing flow channel for separation of the blood component in the blood separation chamber. In a collection mode, the pump station is operated to convey at least some of the blood component in the blood processing flow channel into the blood component collection flow channel for collection in the blood component collection container.

In one embodiment, the blood component collection flow channel includes a filter to remove undesired materials, e.g., leukocytes, from the blood component before entering the blood component collection container.

In one embodiment, the pump station is also operated in a blood component return mode, to convey at least some of the blood component in the blood processing flow channel into the donor flow channel for return to the donor.

In one embodiment, the pump station also communicates with a utility flow channel, which includes a container holding a processing fluid, e.g., saline. The pump station is operated in the blood component return mode, to convey processing fluid in the utility flow channel into the donor flow channel for mixing with the blood component returned to the donor. The on-line mixing of a processing fluid improves donor comfort by, e.g., raising the temperature of the processing fluid before entering the

circulatory system of the donor, or by lowering the hematocrit of a returned cellular blood component, thereby allowing a larger gauge (i.e., smaller diameter) phlebotomy needle to be used.

5 In one embodiment, the pump station is operated in a processing fluid transfer mode, during which processing fluid in the utility flow channel into the blood processing flow channel for mixing with the blood component. In this arrangement, the processing fluid can includes a blood
10 component additive to enhance storage of the blood component.

 In one embodiment, the pump station includes a fluid pressure actuated pump and an actuator to apply fluid pressure to the pump. In this embodiment, the pump station
15 and all the flow channels with which the pump station communicates are centralized within a cassette.

 According to another aspect of the invention, a blood processing system and related method couple a pump station to a donor flow channel to convey fluid to and from
20 a donor, a blood processing flow channel including a blood separation chamber to separate red blood cells from donor whole blood, and a blood component collection flow channel including a red blood cell collection container and an in-line filter to remove leukocytes from the red blood cells
25 before entering the red blood cell collection container. The pump station is operated in a processing mode to convey whole blood in the donor flow channel into the blood processing flow channel for separation of the red blood cells in the blood separation chamber. The pump station is
30 also operated in a collection mode, to convey at least some of the red blood cells in the blood processing flow channel into the blood component collection flow channel for on-line removal of leukocytes and collection in the red blood cell collection container.

35 In one embodiment applicable to each aspect of the

invention, the pump station comprises first and second fluid pressure actuated pump stations. A fluid pressure actuator operates to selectively apply fluid pressure pump strokes in tandem to the first and second pump stations to convey fluid from a source to a destination. During at least one of the multiple modes, operation of the pump station is switched between a first flow state and a second flow state. In the first flow state, the pump strokes draw a fluid volume into the first pump station from the source and expel a fluid volume from the second pump station to the destination. In the second flow state, the pump strokes draw a fluid volume into the second pump station from the source and expel a fluid volume from the first pump station to the destination. A control function operates to synchronize the pump strokes so that fluid flow from the source is essentially continuous while fluid flow to the destination is pulsatile.

Other features and advantages of the inventions are set forth in the following specification and attached drawings.

Brief Description of the Drawings

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a system that embodies features of the invention, with the disposable processing set shown out of association with the processing device prior to use;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the system shown in Fig. 1, with the doors to the centrifuge station and pump and valve station being shown open to accommodate mounting of the processing set;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the system shown in Fig. 1 with the processing set fully mounted on the processing device and ready for use;

Fig. 4 is a right perspective front view of the case that houses the processing device shown in Fig. 1, with the lid closed for transporting the device;

Fig. 5 is a schematic view of a blood processing

circuit, which can be programmed to perform a variety of different blood processing procedures in association with the device shown in Fig. 1;

5 Fig. 6 is an exploded perspective view of a cassette, which contains the programmable blood processing circuit shown in Fig. 5, and the pump and valve station on the processing device shown in Fig. 1, which receives the cassette for use;

10 Fig. 7 is a plane view of the front side of the cassette shown in Fig. 6;

Fig. 8 is an enlarged perspective view of a valve station on the cassette shown in Fig. 6;

Fig. 9 is a plane view of the back side of the cassette shown in Fig. 6;

15 Fig. 10 is a plane view of a universal processing set, which incorporates the cassette shown in Fig. 6, and which can be mounted on the device shown in Fig. 1, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3;

20 Fig. 11 is a top section view of the pump and valve station in which the cassette as shown in Fig. 6 is carried for use;

25 Fig. 12 is a schematic view of a pneumatic manifold assembly, which is part of the pump and valve station shown in Fig. 6, and which supplies positive and negative pneumatic pressures to convey fluid through the cassette shown in Figs. 7 and 9;

30 Fig. 13 is a perspective front view of the case that houses the processing device, with the lid open for use of the device, and showing the location of various processing elements housed within the case;

Fig. 14 is a schematic view of the controller that carries out the process control and monitoring functions of the device shown in Fig. 1;

35 Fig. 15A, 15B, and 15C are schematic side view of the blood separation chamber that the device shown in Fig.

1 incorporates, showing the plasma and red blood cell
collection tubes and the associated two in-line sensors,
which detect a normal operating condition (Fig. 15A), an
over spill condition (Fig. 15B), and an under spill
5 condition (Fig. 15C);

Fig. 16 is a perspective view of a fixture that,
when coupled to the plasma and red blood cell collection
tubes hold the tubes in a desired viewing alignment with the
in-line sensors, as shown in Figs. 15A, 15B, and 15C;

10 Fig. 17 is a perspective view of the fixture shown
in Fig. 16, with a plasma cell collection tube, a red blood
cell collection tube, and a whole blood inlet tube attached,
gathering the tubes in an organized, side-by-side array;

15 Fig. 18 is a perspective view of the fixture and
tubes shown in Fig. 17, as being placed into viewing
alignment with the two sensors shown in Figs. 15A, 15B, and
15C;

20 Fig. 19 is a schematic view of the sensing
station, of which the first and second sensors shown in
Figs. 15A, 15B, and 15C form a part;

Fig. 20 is a graph of optical densities as sensed
by the first and second sensors plotted over time, showing
an under spill condition;

25 Fig. 21 is an exploded top perspective view of the
of a molded centrifugal blood processing container, which
can be used in association with the device shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 22 is a bottom perspective view of the molded
processing container shown in Fig. 21;

30 Fig. 23 is a top view of the molded processing
container shown in Fig. 21;

Fig. 24 is a side section view of the molded
processing container shown in Fig. 21, showing an umbilicus
to be connected the container;

35 Fig. 24A is a top view of the connector that
connects the umbilicus to the molded processing container in

the manner shown in Fig. 24, taken generally along line 24A-24A in Fig. 24;

5 Fig. 25 is a side section view of the molded processing container shown in Fig. 24, after connection of the umbilicus to container;

Fig. 26 is an exploded, perspective view of the centrifuge station of the processing device shown in Fig. 1, with the processing container mounted for use;

10 Fig. 27 is a further exploded, perspective view of the centrifuge station and processing container shown in Fig. 26;

Fig. 28 is a side section view of the centrifuge station of the processing device shown in Fig. 26, with the processing container mounted for use;

15 Fig. 29 is a top view of a molded centrifugal blood processing container as shown in Figs. 21 to 23, showing a flow path arrangement for separating whole blood into plasma and red blood cells;

20 Figs. 31 to 33 are top views of molded centrifugal blood processing containers as shown in Figs. 21 to 23, showing other flow path arrangements for separating whole blood into plasma and red blood cells;

25 Fig. 34 is a schematic view of another blood processing circuit, which can be programmed to perform a variety of different blood processing procedures in association with the device shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 35 is plane view of the front side of a cassette, which contains the programmable blood processing circuit shown in Fig. 34;

30 Fig. 36 is a plane view of the back side of the cassette shown in Fig. 35;

35 Figs. 37A to 37E are schematic views of the blood processing circuit shown in Fig. 34, showing the programming of the cassette to carry out different fluid flow tasks in connection with processing whole blood into plasma and red

blood cells;

Figs. 38A and 38B are schematic views of the blood processing circuit shown in Fig. 34, showing the programming of the cassette to carry out fluid flow tasks in connection with on-line transfer of an additive solution into red blood cells separated from whole blood;

Figs. 39A and 39B are schematic views of the blood processing circuit shown in Fig. 34, showing the programming of the cassette to carry out fluid flow tasks in connection with on-line transfer of red blood cells separated from whole blood through a filter to remove leukocytes;

Fig. 40 is a representative embodiment of a weigh scale suited for use in association with the device shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 41 is a representative embodiment of another weigh suited for use in association with the device shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 42 is a schematic view of flow rate sensing and control system for a pneumatic pump chamber employing an electrode to create an electrical field inside the pump chamber; and

Fig. 43 is a schematic view of a pneumatic manifold assembly, which is part of the pump and valve station shown in Fig. 6, and which supplies positive and negative pneumatic pressures to convey fluid through the cassette shown in Figs. 35 and 36.

The invention may be embodied in several forms without departing from its spirit or essential characteristics. The scope of the invention is defined in the appended claims, rather than in the specific description preceding them. All embodiments that fall within the meaning and range of equivalency of the claims are therefore intended to be embraced by the claims.

Description of the Preferred Embodiments

Fig. 1 shows a fluid processing system 10 that embodies

the features of the invention. The system 10 can be used for processing various fluids. The system 10 is particularly well suited for processing whole blood and other suspensions of biological cellular materials. Accordingly, the illustrated embodiment shows the system 10 used for this purpose.

I. System Overview

The system 10 includes three principal components. These are (i) a liquid and blood flow set 12; (ii) a blood processing device 14 that interacts with the flow set 12 to cause separation and collection of one or more blood components; and (iii) a controller 16 that governs the interaction to perform a blood processing and collection procedure selected by the operator.

The blood processing device 14 and controller 16 are intended to be durable items capable of long term use. In the illustrated and preferred embodiment, the blood processing device 14 and controller 16 are mounted inside a portable housing or case 36. The case 36 presents a compact footprint, suited for set up and operation upon a table top or other relatively small surface. The case 36 is also intended to be transported easily to a collection site.

The case 36 includes a base 38 and a hinged lid 40, which opens (as Fig. 1 shows) and closes (as Fig. 4 shows). The lid 40 includes a latch 42, for releasably locking the lid 40 closed. The lid 40 also includes a handle 44, which the operator can grasp for transporting the case 36 when the lid 40 is closed. In use, the base 38 is intended to rest in a generally horizontal support surface.

The case 36 can be formed into a desired configuration, e.g., by molding. The case 36 is preferably made from a lightweight, yet durable, plastic material.

The flow set 12 is intended to be a sterile, single use, disposable item. As Fig. 2 shows, before beginning a given blood processing and collection procedure, the

operator loads various components of the flow set 12 in the case 36 in association with the device 14. The controller 16 implements the procedure based upon preset protocols, taking into account other input from the operator. Upon completing the procedure, the operator removes the flow set 12 from association with the device 14. The portion of the set 12 holding the collected blood component or components are removed from the case 36 and retained for storage, transfusion, or further processing. The remainder of the set 12 is removed from the case 36 and discarded.

The flow set 12 shown in Fig. 1 includes a blood processing chamber 18 designed for use in association with a centrifuge. Accordingly, as Fig. 2 shows, the processing device 14 includes a centrifuge station 20, which receives the processing chamber 18 for use. As Figs. 2 and 3 show, the centrifuge station 20 comprises a compartment formed in the base 38. The centrifuge station 20 includes a door 22, which opens and closes the compartment. The door 22 opens to allow loading of the processing chamber 18. The door 22 closes to enclose the processing chamber 18 during operation.

The centrifuge station 20 rotates the processing chamber 18. When rotated, the processing chamber 18 centrifugally separates whole blood received from a donor into component parts, e.g., red blood cells, plasma, and buffy coat comprising platelets and leukocytes.

It should also be appreciated that the system 10 need not separate blood centrifugally. The system 10 can accommodate other types of blood separation devices, e.g., a membrane blood separation device.

II. The Programmable Blood Processing Circuit

The set 12 defines a programmable blood processing circuit 46. Various configurations are possible. Fig. 5 schematically shows one representative configuration. Fig. 34 schematically shows another representative configuration,

which will be described later.

Referring to Fig. 5, the circuit 46 can be programmed to perform a variety of different blood processing procedures in which, e.g., red blood cells are collected, or
5 plasma is collected, or both plasma and red blood cells are collected, or the buffy coat is collected.

The circuit 46 includes several pump stations PP(N), which are interconnected by a pattern of fluid flow paths F(N) through an array of in line valves V(N). The circuit is
10 coupled to the remainder of the blood processing set by ports P(N).

The circuit 46 includes a programmable network of flow paths, comprising eleven universal ports P1 to P8 and P11 to P13 and three universal pump stations PP1, PP2, and PP3. By
15 selective operation of the in line valves V1 to V14, V16 to V18, and V21 to 23, any universal port P1 to P8 and P11 to P13 can be placed in flow communication with any universal pump station PP1, PP2, and PP3. By selective operation of the universal valves, fluid flow can be directed through any
20 universal pump station in a forward direction or reverse direction between two valves, or an in-out direction through a single valve.

In the illustrated embodiment, the circuit also includes an isolated flow path comprising two ports P9 and P10 and one pump station PP4. The flow path is termed
25 "isolated," because it cannot be placed into direct flow communication with any other flow path in the circuit 46 without exterior tubing. By selective operation of the in line valves V15, V19, and V20, fluid flow can be directed
30 through the pump station in a forward direction or reverse direction between two valves, or an in-out direction through a single valve.

The circuit 46 can be programmed to assigned dedicated pumping functions to the various pump stations. For example,
35 in a preferred embodiment, the universal pump station PP3

can serve as a general purpose, donor interface pump, regardless of the particular blood procedure performed, to either draw blood from the donor or return blood to the donor through the port P8. In this arrangement, the pump station PP4 can serve as a dedicated anticoagulant pump, to draw anticoagulant from a source through the port P10 and to meter anticoagulant into the blood through port P9.

In this arrangement, the universal pump station PP1 can serve, regardless of the particular blood processing procedure performed, as a dedicated in-process whole blood pump, to convey whole blood into the blood separator. This dedicated function frees the donor interface pump PP3 from the added function of supplying whole blood to the blood separator. Thus, the in-process whole blood pump PP1 can maintain a continuous supply of blood to the blood separator, while the donor interface pump PP3 is simultaneously used to draw and return blood to the donor through the single phlebotomy needle. Processing time is thereby minimized.

In this arrangement, the universal pump station PP2 can serve, regardless of the particular blood processing procedure performed, as a plasma pump, to convey plasma from the blood separator. The ability to dedicate separate pumping functions provides a continuous flow of blood into and out of the separator, as well as to and from the donor.

The circuit 46 can be programmed, depending upon the objectives of the particular blood processing procedure, to retain all or some of the plasma for storage or fractionation purposes, or to return all or some of the plasma to the donor. The circuit 46 can be further programmed, depending upon the objectives of the particular blood processing procedure, to retain all or some of the red blood cells for storage, or to return all or some of the red blood cells to the donor. The circuit 46 can also be programmed, depending upon the objectives of the particular

blood processing procedure, to retain all or some of the buffy coat for storage, or to return all or some of the buffy coat to the donor.

In a preferred embodiment, the programmable fluid circuit 46 is implemented by use of a fluid pressure actuated cassette 28 (see Fig. 6). The cassette 28 provides a centralized, programmable, integrated platform for all the pumping and valving functions required for a given blood processing procedure. In the illustrated embodiment, the fluid pressure comprising positive and negative pneumatic pressure. Other types of fluid pressure can be used.

As Fig. 6 shows, the cassette 28 interacts with a pneumatic actuated pump and valve station 30, which is mounted in the lid of the 40 of the case 36 (see Fig. 1). The cassette 28 is, in use, mounted in the pump and valve station 30. The pump and valve station 30 apply positive and negative pneumatic pressure upon the cassette 28 to direct liquid flow through the circuit. Further details will be provided later.

The cassette 28 can take various forms. As illustrated (see Fig. 6), the cassette 28 comprises an injection molded body 188 having a front side 190 and a back side 192. For the purposes of description, the front side 190 is the side of the cassette 28 that, when the cassette 28 is mounted in the pump and valve station 30, faces away from the operator. Flexible diaphragms 194 and 196 overlay both the front side 190 and back sides 192 of the cassette 28, respectively.

The cassette body 188 is preferably made of a rigid medical grade plastic material. The diaphragms 194 and 196 are preferably made of flexible sheets of medical grade plastic. The diaphragms 194 and 196 are sealed about their peripheries to the peripheral edges of the front and back sides of the cassette body 188. Interior regions of the diaphragms 194 and 196 can also be sealed to interior regions of the cassette body 188.

The cassette body 188 has an array of interior cavities formed on both the front and back sides 190 and 192 (see Figs. 7 and 9). The interior cavities define the valve stations and flow paths shown schematically in Fig. 5. An additional interior cavity is provided in the back side of the cassette 28 to form a station that holds a filter material 200. In the illustrated embodiment, the filter material 200 comprises an overmolded mesh filter construction. The filter material 200 is intended, during use, to remove clots and cellular aggregations that can form during blood processing.

The pump stations PP1 to PP4 are formed as wells that are open on the front side 190 of the cassette body 188. Upstanding edges peripherally surround the open wells of the pump stations. The pump wells are closed on the back side 192 of the cassette body 188, except for a spaced pair of through holes or ports 202 and 204 for each pump station. The ports 202 and 204 extend through to the back side 192 of the cassette body 188. As will become apparent, either port 202 or 204 can serve its associated pump station as an inlet or an outlet, or both inlet and outlet.

The in line valves V1 to V23 are likewise formed as wells that are open on the front side 190 of the cassette. Fig. 8 shows a typical valve V(N). Upstanding edges peripherally surround the open wells of the valves on the front side 190 of the cassette body 188. The valves are closed on the back side 192 of the cassette 28, except that each valve includes a pair of through holes or ports 206 and 208. One port 206 communicates with a selected liquid path on the back side 192 of the cassette body 188. The other port 208 communicates with another selected liquid path on the back side 192 of the cassette body 188.

In each valve, a valve seat 210 extends about one of the ports 208. The valve seat 210 is recessed below the surface of the recessed valve well, such that the port 208

is essentially flush with the surrounding surface of recessed valve well, and the valve seat 210 extends below than the surface of the valve well.

The flexible diaphragm 194 overlying the front side 190 of the cassette 28 rests against the upstanding peripheral edges surrounding the pump stations and valves. With the application of positive force uniformly against this side of the cassette body 188, the flexible diaphragm 194 seats against the upstanding edges. The positive force forms peripheral seals about the pump stations and valves. This, in turn, isolates the pumps and valves from each other and the rest of the system. The pump and valve station 30 applies positive force to the front side 190 of the cassette body 188 for this purpose.

Further localized application of positive and negative fluid pressures upon the regions of the diaphragm 194 overlying these peripherally sealed areas serve to flex the diaphragm regions in these peripherally sealed areas. These localized applications of positive and negative fluid pressures on these diaphragm regions overlying the pump stations serve to expel liquid out of the pump stations (with application of positive pressure) and draw liquid into the pump stations (with application of negative pressure).

In the illustrated embodiment, the bottom of each pump station PP1 to PP4 includes a recessed race 316 (see Fig. 7). The race 316 extends between the ports 202 and 204, and also includes a dogleg extending at an angle from the top port 202. The race 316 provides better liquid flow continuity between the ports 202 and 204, particularly when the diaphragm region is forced by positive pressure against the bottom of the pump station. The race 316 also prevents the diaphragm region from trapping air within the pump station. Air within the pump station is forced into the race 316, where it can be readily venting through the top port 202 out of the pump station, even if the diaphragm

region is bottomed out in the station.

5 Likewise, localized applications of positive and
negative fluid pressure on the diaphragm regions overlying
the valves will serve to seat (with application of positive
pressure) and unseat (with application of negative pressure)
these diaphragm regions against the valve seats, thereby
closing and opening the associated valve port. The flexible
diaphragm is responsive to an applied negative pressure for
flexure out of the valve seat 210 to open the respective
10 port. The flexible diaphragm is responsive to an applied
positive pressure for flexure into the valve seat 210 to
close the respective port. Sealing is accomplished by
forcing the flexible diaphragm to flex into the recessed
valve seat 210, to seal about the port 208, which is flush
15 with wall of the valve well. The flexible diaphragm forms
within the recessed valve seat 210 a peripheral seal about
the valve port 208.

In operation, the pump and valve station 30 applies
localized positive and negative fluid pressures to these
20 regions of front diaphragm 104 for opening and closing the
valve ports.

The liquid paths F1 to F38 are formed as elongated
channels that are open on the back side 192 of the cassette
body 188, except for the liquid paths F15, F23, and F24 are
25 formed as elongated channels that are open on the front side
190 of the cassette body 188. The liquid paths are shaded in
Fig. 9 to facilitate their viewing. Upstanding edges
peripherally surround the open channels on the front and
back sides 190 and 192 of the cassette body 188.

30 The liquid paths F1 to F38 are closed on the front side
190 of the cassette body 188, except where the channels
cross over valve station ports or pump station ports.
Likewise, the liquid paths F31 to F38 are closed on the back
side 192 of the cassette body 188, except where the channels
35 cross over in-line ports communicating with certain channels

on the back side 192 of the cassette 28.

The flexible diaphragms 194 and 196 overlying the front and back sides 190 and 192 of the cassette body 188 rest against the upstanding peripheral edges surrounding the liquid paths F1 to F38. With the application of positive force uniformly against the front and back sides 190 and 192 of the cassette body 188, the flexible diaphragms 194 and 196 seat against the upstanding edges. This forms peripheral seals along the liquid paths F1 to F38. In operation, the pump and valve station 30 applies positive force to the diaphragms 194 and 196 for this purpose.

The pre-molded ports P1 to P13 extend out along two side edges of the cassette body 188. The cassette 28 is vertically mounted for use in the pump and valve station 30 (see Fig. 2). In this orientation, the ports P8 to P13 face downward, and the ports P1 to P7 are vertically stacked one above the other and face inward.

As Fig. 2 shows, the ports P8 to P13, by facing downward, are oriented with container support trays 212 formed in the base 38, as will be described later. The ports P1 to P7, facing inward, are oriented with the centrifuge station 20 and a container weigh station 214, as will also be described in greater detail later. The orientation of the ports P5 to P7 (which serve the processing chamber 18) below the ports P1 to P4 keeps air from entering the processing chamber 18.

This ordered orientation of the ports provides a centralized, compact unit aligned with the operative regions of the case 36.

B. The Universal Set

Fig. 10 schematically shows a universal set 264, which, by selective programming of the blood processing circuit 46 implemented by cassette 28, is capable of performing several different blood processing procedures.

The universal set 264 includes a donor tube 266, which

is attached (through y-connectors 272 and 273) to tubing 300 having an attached phlebotomy needle 268. The donor tube 266 is coupled to the port P8 of the cassette 28.

5 A container 275 for collecting an in-line sample of blood drawn through the tube 300 is also attached through the y-connector 273.

10 An anticoagulant tube 270 is coupled to the phlebotomy needle 268 via the y-connector 272. The anticoagulant tube 270 is coupled to cassette port P9. A container 276 holding anticoagulant is coupled via a tube 274 to the cassette port P10. The anticoagulant tube 270 carries an external, manually operated in line clamp 282 of conventional construction.

15 A container 280 holding a red blood cell additive solution is coupled via a tube 278 to the cassette port P3. The tube 278 also carries an external, manually operated in line clamp 282.

A container 288 holding saline is coupled via a tube 284 to the cassette port P12.

20 Fig. 10 shows the fluid holding containers 276, 280, and 288 as being integrally attached during manufacture of the set 264. Alternatively, all or some of the containers 276, 280, and 288 can be supplied separate from the set 264. The containers 276, 280, and 288 may be coupled by
25 conventional spike connectors, or the set 264 may be configured to accommodate the attachment of the separate container or containers at the time of use through a suitable sterile connection, to thereby maintain a sterile, closed blood processing environment. Alternatively, the
30 tubes 274, 278, and 284 can carry an in-line sterilizing filter and a conventional spike connector for insertion into a container port at time of use, to thereby maintain a sterile, closed blood processing environment.

35 The set 264 further includes tubes 290, 292, 294, which extend to an umbilicus 296. When installed in the processing

station, the umbilicus 296 links the rotating processing chamber 18 with the cassette 28 without need for rotating seals. Further details of this construction will be provided later.

5 The tubes 290, 292, and 294 are coupled, respectively, to the cassette ports P5, P6, and P7. The tube 290 conveys whole blood into the processing chamber 18. The tube 292 conveys plasma from the processing chamber 18. The tube 294 conveys red blood cells from processing chamber 18.

10 A plasma collection container 304 is coupled by a tube 302 to the cassette port P3. The collection container 304 is intended, in use, to serve as a reservoir for plasma during processing.

15 A red blood cell collection container 308 is coupled by a tube 306 to the cassette port P2. The collection container 308 is intended, in use, to receive a first unit of red blood cells for storage.

20 A whole blood reservoir 312 is coupled by a tube 310 to the cassette port P1. The collection container 312 is intended, in use, to serve as a reservoir for whole blood during processing. It can also serve to receive a second unit of red blood cells for storage.

As shown in Fig. 10, no tubing is coupled to the utility cassette port P13 and buffy port P4.

25 **C. The Pump and Valve Station**

30 The pump and valve station 30 includes a cassette holder 216. The door 32 is hinged to move with respect to the cassette holder 216 between the opened position, exposing the cassette holder 216 (shown in Fig. 6) and the closed position, covering the cassette holder 216 (shown in Fig. 3). The door 32 also includes an over center latch 218 with a latch handle 220. When the door 32 is closed, the latch 218 swings into engagement with the latch pin 222.

35 As Fig. 11 shows, the inside face of the door 32 carries an elastomeric gasket 224. The gasket 224 contacts

the back side 192 of the cassette 28 when the door 32 is closed. An inflatable bladder 314 underlies the gasket 224.

With the door 32 opened (see Fig. 2), the operator can place the cassette 28 into the cassette holder 216. Closing
5 the door 32 and securing the latch 218 brings the gasket 224 into facing contact with the diaphragm 196 on the back side 192 of the cassette 28. Inflating the bladder 314 presses the gasket 224 into intimate, sealing engagement against the diaphragm 196. The cassette 28 is thereby secured in a
10 tight, sealing fit within the cassette holder 216.

The inflation of the bladder 314 also fully loads the over center latch 218 against the latch pin 222 with a force that cannot be overcome by normal manual force against the latch handle 220. The door 32 is securely locked and cannot
15 be opened when the bladder 314 is inflated. In this construction, there is no need for an auxiliary lock-out device or sensor to assure against opening of the door 32 during blood processing.

The pump and valve station 30 also includes a manifold
20 assembly 226 located in the cassette holder 216. The manifold assembly 226 comprises a molded or machined plastic or metal body. The front side 194 of the diaphragm is held in intimate engagement against the manifold assembly 226 when the door 32 is closed and bladder 314 inflated.

The manifold assembly 226 is coupled to a pneumatic
25 pressure source 234, which supplies positive and negative air pressure. The pneumatic pressure source 234 is carried inside the lid 40 behind the manifold assembly 226.

In the illustrated embodiment, the pressure source 234
30 comprises two compressors C1 and C2. However, one or several dual-head compressors could be used as well. As Fig. 12 shows, one compressor C1 supplies negative pressure through the manifold 226 to the cassette 28. The other compressor C2 supplies positive pressure through the
35 manifold 226 to the cassette 28.

As Fig. 12 shows, the manifold 226 contains four pump actuators PA1 to PA4 and twenty-three valve actuators VA1 to VA23. The pump actuators PA1 to PA4 and the valve actuators VA1 to VA23 are mutually oriented to form a mirror image of the pump stations PP1 to PP4 and valve stations V1 to V23 on the front side 190 of the cassette 28.

As Fig. 22 also shows, each actuator PA1 to PA4 and VA1 to VA23 includes a port 228. The ports 228 convey positive or negative pneumatic pressures from the source in a sequence governed by the controller 16. These positive and negative pressure pulses flex the front diaphragm 194 to operate the pump chambers PP1 to PP4 and valve stations V1 to V23 in the cassette 28. This, in turn, moves blood and processing liquid through the cassette 28.

The cassette holder 216 preferably includes an integral elastomeric membrane 232 (see Fig. 6) stretched across the manifold assembly 226. The membrane 232 serves as the interface between the piston element 226 and the diaphragm 194 of the cassette 28, when fitted into the holder 216. The membrane 232 may include one or more small through holes (not shown) in the regions overlying the pump and valve actuators PA1 to PA4 and V1 to V23. The holes are sized to convey pneumatic fluid pressure from the manifold assembly 226 to the cassette diaphragm 194. Still, the holes are small enough to retard the passage of liquid. The membrane 232 forms a flexible splash guard across the exposed face of the manifold assembly 226.

The splash guard membrane 232 keeps liquid out of the pump and valve actuators PA1 to PA4 and VA1 to VA23, should the cassette diaphragm 194 leak. The splash guard membrane 232 also serves as a filter to keep particulate matter out of the pump and valve actuators of the manifold assembly 226. The splash guard membrane 232 can be periodically wiped clean when cassettes 28 are exchanged.

The manifold assembly 226 includes an array of solenoid

actuated pneumatic valves, which are coupled in-line with the pump and valve actuators PA1 to PA4 and VA1 to VA23. The manifold assembly 226, under the control of the controller 16, selectively distributes the different pressure and vacuum levels to the pump and valve actuators PA(N) and VA(N). These levels of pressure and vacuum are systematically applied to the cassette 28, to route blood and processing liquids.

Under the control of a controller 16, the manifold assembly 226 also distributes pressure levels to the door bladder 314 (already described), as well as to a donor pressure cuff (not shown) and to a donor line occluder 320.

As Fig. 1 shows, the donor line occluder 320 is located in the case 36, immediately below the pump and valve station 30, in alignment with the ports P8 and P9 of the cassette 28. The donor line 266, coupled to the port P8, passes through the occluder 320. The anticoagulant line 270, coupled to the port P9, also passes through the occluder 320. The occluder 320 is a spring loaded, normally closed pinch valve, between which the lines 266 and 270 pass. Pneumatic pressure from the manifold assembly 234 is supplied to a bladder (not shown) through a solenoid valve. The bladder, when expanded with pneumatic pressure, opens the pinch valve, to thereby open the lines 266 and 270. In the absence of pneumatic pressure, the solenoid valve closes and the bladder vents to atmosphere. The spring loaded pinch valve of the occluder 320 closes, thereby closing the lines 266 and 270.

The manifold assembly 226 maintains several different pressure and vacuum conditions, under the control of the controller 16. In the illustrated embodiment, the following multiple pressure and vacuum conditions are maintained:

(i) Phard, or Hard Pressure, and Pinpr, or In-Process Pressure are the highest pressures maintained in the manifold assembly 226. Phard is applied for closing cassette

valves V1 to V23. Pinpr is applied to drive the expression of liquid from the in-process pump PP1 and the plasma pump PP2. A typical pressure level for Phard and Pinpr in the context of the preferred embodiment is 500 mmHg.

5 (ii) Pgen, or General Pressure, is applied to drive the expression of liquid from the donor interface pump PP3 and the anticoagulant pump PP4. A typical pressure level for Pgen in the context of the preferred embodiment is 150 mmHg.

10 (iii) Pcuff, or Cuff Pressure, is supplied to the donor pressure cuff. A typical pressure level for Pcuff in the context of the preferred embodiment is 80 mmHg.

15 (iv) Vhard, or Hard Vacuum, is the deepest vacuum applied in the manifold assembly 226. Vhard is applied to open cassette valves V1 to V23. A typical vacuum level for Vhard in the context of the preferred embodiment is -350 mmHg.

20 (vi) Vgen, or General Vacuum, is applied to drive the draw function of each of the four pumps PP1 to PP4. A typical pressure level for Vgen in the context of the preferred embodiment is -300 mmHg.

 (vii) Pdoor, or Door Pressure, is applied to the bladder 314 to seal the cassette 28 into the holder 216. A typical pressure level for Pdoor in the context of the preferred embodiment is 700 mmHg.

25 For each pressure and vacuum level, a variation of plus or minus 20 mmHg is tolerated.

 Pinpr is used to operate the in process pump PP1, to pump blood into the processing chamber 18. The magnitude of Pinpr must be sufficient to overcome a minimum pressure of approximately 300 mm Hg, which is typically present within the processing chamber 18.

30 Similarly, Pinpr is used for the plasma pump PP2, since it must have similar pressure capabilities in the event that plasma needs to be pumped backwards into the processing chamber 18, e.g., during a spill condition, as will be

35

described later.

Pinpr and Phard are operated at the highest pressure to ensure that upstream and downstream valves used in conjunction with pumping are not forced opened by the pressures applied to operate the pumps. The cascaded, interconnectable design of the fluid paths F1 to F38 through the cassette 28 requires Pinpr-Phard to be the highest pressure applied. By the same token, Vgen is required to be less extreme than Vhard, to ensure that pumps PP1 to PP4 do not overwhelm upstream and downstream cassette valves V1 to V23.

Pgen is used to drive the donor interface pump PP3 and can be maintained at a lower pressure, as can the AC pump PP4.

A main hard pressure line 322 and a main vacuum line 324 distribute Phard and Vhard in the manifold assembly 324. The pressure and vacuum sources 234 run continuously to supply Phard to the hard pressure line 322 and Vhard to the hard vacuum line 324.

A pressure sensor S1 monitors Phard in the hard pressure line 322. The sensor S1 controls a solenoid 38. The solenoid 38 is normally closed. The sensor S1 opens the solenoid 38 to build Phard up to its maximum set value. Solenoid 38 is closed as long as Phard is within its specified pressure range and is opened when Phard falls below its minimum acceptable value.

Similarly, a pressure sensor S5 in the hard vacuum line 324 monitors Vhard. The sensor S5 controls a solenoid 39. The solenoid 39 is normally closed. The sensor S5 opens the solenoid 39 to build Vhard up to its maximum value. Solenoid 39 is closed as long as Vhard is within its specified pressure range and is opened when Vhard falls outside its specified range.

A general pressure line 326 branches from the hard pressure line 322. A sensor S2 in the general pressure line

326 monitors Pgen. The sensor 32 controls a solenoid 30. The solenoid 30 is normally closed. The sensor S2 opens the solenoid 30 to refresh Pgen from the hard pressure line 322, up to the maximum value of Pgen. Solenoid 30 is closed as long as Pgen is within its specified pressure range and is opened when Pgen falls outside its specified range.

An in process pressure line 328 also branches from the hard pressure line 322. A sensor S3 in the in process pressure line 328 monitors Pinpr. The sensor S3 controls a solenoid 36. The solenoid 36 is normally closed. The sensor S3 opens the solenoid 36 to refresh Pinpr from the hard pressure line 322, up to the maximum value of Pinpr. Solenoid 36 is closed as long as Pinpr is within its specified pressure range and is opened when Pinpr falls outside its specified range.

A general vacuum line 330 branches from the hard vacuum line 324. A sensor S6 monitors Vgen in the general vacuum line 330. The sensor S6 controls a solenoid 31. The solenoid 31 is normally closed. The sensor S6 opens the solenoid 31 to refresh Vgen from the hard vacuum line 324, up to the maximum value of Vgen. The solenoid 31 is closed as long as Vgen is within its specified range and is opened when Vgen falls outside its specified range.

In-line reservoirs R1 to R5 are provided in the hard pressure line 322, the in process pressure line 328, the general pressure line 326, the hard vacuum line 324, and the general vacuum line 330. The reservoirs R1 to R5 assure that the constant pressure and vacuum adjustments as above described are smooth and predictable.

The solenoids 33 and 34 provide a vent for the pressures and vacuums, respectively, upon procedure completion. Since pumping and valving will continually consume pressure and vacuum, the solenoids 33 and 34 are normally closed. The solenoids 33 and 34 are opened to vent the manifold assembly upon the completion of a blood

processing procedure.

5 The solenoids 28, 29, 35, 37 and 32 provide the
capability to isolate the reservoirs R1 to R5 from the air
lines that supply vacuum and pressure to the manifold
assembly 226. This provides for much quicker
pressure/vacuum decay feedback, so that testing of
cassette/manifold assembly seal integrity can be
accomplished. These solenoids 28, 29, 35, 37, and 32 are
normally opened, so that pressure cannot be built in the
10 assembly 226 without a command to close the solenoids 28,
29, 35, 37, and 32, and, further, so that the system
pressures and vacuums can vent in an error mode or with loss
of power.

15 The solenoids 1 to 23 provide Phard or Vhard to drive
the valve actuators VA1 to V23. In the unpowered state,
these solenoids are normally opened to keep all cassette
valves V1 to V23 closed.

20 The solenoids 24 and 25 provide Pinpr and Vgen to drive
the in-process and plasma pumps PP1 and PP2. In the
unpowered state, these solenoids are opened to keep both
pumps PP1 and PP2 closed.

25 The solenoids 26 and 27 provide Pgen and Vgen to drive
the donor interface and AC pumps PP3 and PP4. In the
unpowered state, these solenoids are opened to keep both
pumps PP3 and PP4 closed.

30 The solenoid 43 provides isolation of the door bladder
314 from the hard pressure line 322 during the procedure.
The solenoid 43 is normally opened and is closed when Pdoor
is reached. A sensor S7 monitors Pdoor and signals when the
bladder pressure falls below Pdoor. The solenoid 43 is
opened in the unpowered state to ensure bladder 314
venting, as the cassette 28 cannot be removed from the
holder while the door bladder 314 is pressurized.

35 The solenoid 42 provides Phard to open the safety
occluder valve 320. Any error modes that might endanger the

donor will relax (vent) the solenoid 42 to close the occluder 320 and isolate the donor. Similarly, any loss of power will relax the solenoid 42 and isolate the donor.

5 The sensor S4 monitors Pcuff and communicates with solenoids 41 (for increases in pressure) and solenoid 40 (for venting) to maintain the donor cuff within its specified ranges during the procedure. The solenoid 40 is normally open so that the cuff line will vent in the event of system error or loss of power. The solenoid 41 is
10 normally closed to isolate the donor from any Phard in the event of power loss or system error.

Fig. 12 shows a sensor S8 in the pneumatic line serving the donor interface pump actuator PA3. The sensor S8 is a bi-directional mass air flow sensor, which can monitor air
15 flow to the donor interface pump actuator PA3 to detect occlusions in the donor line. Alternatively, as will be described in greater detail later, electrical field variations can be sensed by an electrode carried within the donor interface pump chamber PP3, or any or all other pump
20 chambers PP1, PP2, or PP4, to detect occlusions, as well as to permit calculation of flow rates and the detection of air.

Various alternative embodiments are possible. For example, the pressure and vacuum available to the four
25 pumping chambers could be modified to include more or less distinct levels or different groupings of "shared" pressure and vacuum levels. As another example, Vhard could be removed from access to the solenoids 2, 5, 8, 18, 19, 21, 22 since the restoring springs will return the cassette valves
30 to a closed position upon removal of a vacuum. Furthermore, the vents shown as grouped together could be isolated or joined in numerous combinations.

It should also be appreciated that any of the solenoids used in "normally open" mode could be re-routed
35 pneumatically to be realized as "normally closed".

Similarly, any of the "normally closed" solenoids could be realized as "normally open".

As another example of an alternative embodiment, the hard pressure reservoir R1 could be removed if Pdoor and Phard were set to identical magnitudes. In this arrangement, the door bladder 314 could serve as the hard pressure reservoir. The pressure sensor S7 and the solenoid 43 would also be removed in this arrangement.

III. Other Process Control Components of the System

As Fig. 13 best shows, the case 36 contains other components compactly arranged to aid blood processing. In addition to the centrifuge station 20 and pump and valve station 30, already described, the case 36 includes a weigh station 238, an operator interface station 240, and one or more trays 212 or hangers 248 for containers. The arrangement of these components in the case 36 can vary. In the illustrated embodiment, the weigh station 238, the controller 16, and the user interface station 240, like the pump and valve station 30, are located in the lid 40 of the case 36. The holding trays 212 are located in base 38 of the case 36, adjacent the centrifuge station 20.

A. Container Support Components

The weigh station 238 comprises a series of container hangers/weigh sensors 246 arranged along the top of the lid 40. In use (see Fig. 2), containers 304, 308, 312 are suspended on the hangers/weigh sensors 246.

The containers receive blood components separated during processing, as will be described in greater detail later. The weigh sensors 246 provide output reflecting weight changes over time. This output is conveyed to the controller 16. The controller 16 processes the incremental weight changes to derive fluid processing volumes and flow rates. The controller generates signals to control processing events based, in part, upon the derived processing volumes. Further details of the operation of the

controller to control processing events will be provided later.

The holding trays 212 comprise molded recesses in the base 38. The trays 212 accommodate the containers 276 and 280 (see Fig. 2). In the illustrated embodiment, an additional swing-out hanger 248 is also provided on the side of the lid 40. The hanger 248 (see Fig. 2) supports the container 288 during processing. In the illustrated embodiment, the trays 212 and hanger 248 also include weigh sensors 246.

The weigh sensors 246 can be variously constructed. In the embodiment shown in Fig. 40, the scale includes a force sensor 404 incorporated into a housing 400, to which a hanger 402 is attached. The top surface 420 of hanger 402 engages a spring 406 on the sensor 404. Another spring 418 is compressed as a load, carried by the hanger 402, is applied. The spring 418 resists load movement of the hanger 402, until the load exceeds a predetermined weight (e.g., 2 kg.). At that time, the hanger 402 bottoms out on mechanical stops 408 in the housing 400, thereby providing over load protection.

In the embodiment shown in Fig. 41, a supported beam 410 transfers force applied by a hanger 416 to a force sensor 412 through a spring 414. This design virtually eliminates friction from the weight sensing system. The magnitude of the load carried by the beam is linear in behavior, and the weight sensing system can be readily calibrated to ascertain an actual load applied to the hanger 416.

B. The Controller and Operator Interface Station

The controller 16 carries out process control and monitoring functions for the system 10. As Fig. 14 shows schematically, the controller 16 comprises a main processing unit (MPU) 250, which can comprise, e.g., a Pentium™ type microprocessor made by Intel Corporation, although other

types of conventional microprocessors can be used. The MPU 250 is mounted inside the lid 40 of the case 36 (as Fig. 13 shows).

5 In the preferred embodiment, the MPU 250 employs conventional real time multi-tasking to allocate MPU cycles to processing tasks. A periodic timer interrupt (for example, every 5 milliseconds) preempts the executing task and schedules another that is in a ready state for execution. If a reschedule is requested, the highest
10 priority task in the ready state is scheduled. Otherwise, the next task on the list in the ready state is scheduled.

As Fig. 14 shows, the MPU 250 includes an application control manager 252. The application control manager 252 administers the activation of a library of at least one
15 control application 254. Each control application 254 prescribes procedures for carrying out given functional tasks using the centrifuge station 20 and the pump and valve station 30 in a predetermined way. In the illustrated embodiment, the applications 254 reside as process software
20 in EPROM's in the MPU 250.

The number of applications 254 can vary. In the illustrated embodiment, the applications 254 includes at least one clinical procedure application. The procedure application contains the steps to carry out one prescribed
25 clinical processing procedure. For the sake of example in the illustrated embodiment, the application 254 includes three procedure applications: (1) a double unit red blood cell collection procedure; (2) a plasma collection procedure; and (3) a plasma / red blood cell collection
30 procedure. The details of these procedures will be described later. Of course, additional procedure applications can be included.

As Fig. 14 shows, several slave processing units communicate with the application control manager 252. While
35 the number of slave processing units can vary, the

illustrated embodiment shows five units 256(1) to 256 (5). The slave processing units 256 (1) to 256 (5), in turn, communicates with low level peripheral controllers 258 for controlling the pneumatic pressures within the manifold assembly 226, the weigh sensors 246, the pump and valve actuators PA1 to PA4 and VA1 to VA23 in the pump and valve station 30, the motor for the centrifuge station 20, the interface sensing station 332, and other functional hardware of the system.

The MPU 250 contains in EPROM's the commands for the peripheral controllers 258, which are downloaded to the appropriate slave processing unit 256(1) to 256(5) at start-up. The application control manager 252 also downloads to the appropriate slave processing unit 256(1) to 256(5) the operating parameters prescribed by the activated application 254.

With this downloaded information, the slave processing units 256(1) to 256(5) proceed to generate device commands for the peripheral controllers 258, causing the hardware to operate in a specified way to carry out the procedure. The peripheral controllers 258 return current hardware status information to the appropriate slave processing unit 256(1) to 256(5), which, in turn, generate the commands necessary to maintain the operating parameters ordered by the application control manager 252.

In the illustrated embodiment, one slave processing unit 256(2) performs the function of an environmental manager. The unit 256(2) receives redundant current hardware status information and reports to the MPU 250 should a slave unit malfunction and fail to maintain the desired operating conditions.

As Fig. 14 shows, the MPU 250 also includes an interactive user interface 260, which allows the operator to view and comprehend information regarding the operation of the system 10. The interface 260 is coupled to the

interface station 240. The interface 260 allows the operator to use the interface station 240 to select applications 254 residing in the application control manager 252, as well as to change certain functions and performance criteria of the system 10.

As Fig. 13 shows, the interface station 240 includes an interface screen 262 carried in the lid 40. The interface screen 262 displays information for viewing by the operator in alpha-numeric format and as graphical images. In the illustrated and preferred embodiment, the interface screen 262 also serves as an input device. It receives input from the operator by conventional touch activation.

C. On-Line Monitoring of Pump Flows

1. Gravimetric Monitoring

Using the weigh scales 246, either upstream or downstream of the pumps, the controller 16 can continuously determine the actual volume of fluid that is moved per pump stroke and correct for any deviations from commanded flow. The controller 16 can also diagnose exceptional situations, such as leaks and obstructions in the fluid path. This measure of monitoring and control is desirable in an automated apheresis application, where anticoagulant has to be accurately metered with the whole blood as it is drawn from the donor, and where product quality (e.g., hematocrit, plasma purity) is influenced by the accuracy of the pump flow rates.

The pumps PP1 to PP4 in the cassette 28 each provides a relatively-constant nominal stroke volume, or SV. The flow rate for a given pump can therefore be expressed as follows:

$$Q = \frac{SV}{(T_{Pump} + T_{Fill} + T_{Idle})} \quad (1)$$

where:

Q is the flow rate of the pump.

SV is the stroke volume, or volume moved per pump cycle.

T_{Pump} is the time the fluid is moved out of the pump chamber.

T_{Fill} is the time the pump is filled with fluid, and

5 T_{Idle} is the time when the pump is idle, that is, when no fluid movement occurs.

The SV can be affected by the interaction of the pump with attached downstream and upstream fluid circuits. This is analogous, in electrical circuit theory, to the interaction of a non-ideal current source with the input
10 impedance of the load it sees. Because of this, the actual SV can be different than the nominal SV.

The actual fluid flow in volume per unit of time Q_{Actual} can therefore be expressed as follows:

$$Q_{\text{Actual}} = k \times \frac{SV_{\text{Ideal}}}{T_{\text{Pump}} + T_{\text{Fill}} + T_{\text{Idle}}} \quad (2)$$

15 where:

Q_{Actual} is the actual fluid flow in volume per unit of time.

SV_{Ideal} is the theoretical stroke volume, based upon the geometry of the pump chamber. k is a correction factor
20 that accounts for the interactions between the pump and the upstream and downstream pressures.

The actual flow rate can be ascertained gravimetrically, using the upstream or downstream weigh scales 246, based upon the following relationship:

25
$$Q_{\text{Actual}} = \frac{\Delta Wt}{\rho \times \Delta T} \quad (3)$$

where:

ΔWt is the change in weight of fluid as detected by the upstream or downstream weigh scale 246 during the time period ΔT ,

30 ρ is the density of fluid.

ΔT is the time period where the change in weight ΔWt is detected in the weigh scale 246.

The following expression is derived by combining

Equations (2) and (3):

$$k = (T_{Pump} + T_{Fill} + T_{Idle}) \times \frac{\Delta Wt}{(SV_{Ideal} \times \rho \times \Delta T)} \quad (4)$$

The controller 16 computes k according to Equation (4) and then adjusts T_{Idle} so that the desired flow rate is achieved, as follows:

$$T_{Idle} = (k \times \frac{SV_{Ideal}}{Q_{Desired}}) - T_{Pump} - T_{Fill} \quad (5)$$

The controller 16 updates the values for k and T_{Idle} frequently to adjust the flow rates.

Alternatively, the controller 16 can change T_{Pump} and/or T_{Fill} and/or T_{Idle} to adjust the flow rates.

In this arrangement, one or more of the time interval components T_{Pump} , or T_{Fill} , or T_{Idle} is adjusted to a new magnitude to achieve $Q_{Desired}$, according to the following relationship:

$$T_{n(Adjusted)} = k(\frac{SV_{Ideal}}{Q_{Desired}}) - T_{n(NotAdjusted)}$$

where:

$T_{n(Adjusted)}$ is the magnitude of the time interval component or components after adjustment to achieve the desired flow rate $Q_{Desired}$.

$T_{n(NotAdjusted)}$ is the magnitude of the value of the other time interval component or components of T_{Stroke} that are not adjusted. The adjusted stroke interval after adjustment to achieve the desired flow rate $Q_{Desired}$ is the sum of $T_{n(Adjusted)}$ and $T_{n(NotAdjusted)}$.

The controller 16 also applies the correction factor k as a diagnostics tool to determine abnormal operating conditions. For example, if k differs significantly from its nominal value, the fluid path may have either a leak or an obstruction. Similarly, if computed value of k is of a polarity different from what was expected, then the direction of the pump may be reversed.

With the weigh scales 246, the controller 16 can perform on-line diagnostics even if the pumps are not moving fluid. For example, if the weigh scales 246 detect changes in weight when no flow is expected, then a leaky valve or a leak in the set 264 may be present.

In computing k and T_{idle} and/or T_{Pump} and/or T_{Fill} , the controller 16 may rely upon multiple measurements of ΔWt and/or ΔT . A variety of averaging or recursive techniques (e.g., recursive least means squares, Kalman filtering, etc.) may be used to decrease the error associated with the estimation schemes.

The above described monitoring technique is applicable for use for other constant stroke volume pumps, i.e. peristaltic pumps, etc.

2. Electrical Monitoring

In an alternative arrangement (see Fig. 42), the controller 16 includes a metal electrode 422 located in the chamber of each pump station PP1 to PP4 on the cassette 28. The electrodes 422 are coupled to a current source 424. The passage of current through each electrode 422 creates an electrical field within the respective pump chamber PP1 to PP4.

Cyclic deflection of the diaphragm 194 to draw fluid into and expel fluid from the pump chamber PP1 to PP4 changes the electrical field, resulting in a change in total capacitance of the circuit through the electrode 422. Capacitance increases as fluid is draw into the pump chamber PP1 to PP4, and capacitance decreases as fluid is expelled from pump chamber PP1 to PP4.

The controller 16 includes a capacitive sensor 426 (e.g., a Qprox E2S) coupled to each electrode 422. The capacitive sensor 426 registers changes in capacitance for the electrode 422 in each pump chamber PP1 to PP4. The capacitance signal for a given electrode 422 has a high signal magnitude when the pump chamber is filled with liquid

(diaphragm position 194a), has a low signal magnitude signal when the pump chamber is empty of fluid (diaphragm position 194b), and has a range of intermediate signal magnitudes when the diaphragm occupies positions between position 194a and 194b.

At the outset of a blood processing procedure, the controller 16 calibrates the difference between the high and low signal magnitudes for each sensor to the maximum stroke volume SV of the respective pump chamber. The controller 16 then relates the difference between sensed maximum and minimum signal values during subsequent draw and expel cycles to fluid volume drawn and expelled through the pump chamber. The controller 16 sums the fluid volumes pumped over a sample time period to yield an actual flow rate.

The controller 16 compares the actual flow rate to a desired flow rate. If a deviance exists, the controller 16 varies pneumatic pressure pulses delivered to the actuator PA1 to PA4, to adjust T_{Idle} and/or T_{Pump} and/or T_{Fill} to minimize the deviance.

The controller 16 also operates to detect abnormal operating conditions based upon the variations in the electric field and to generate an alarm output. In the illustrated embodiment, the controller 16 monitors for an increase in the magnitude of the low signal magnitude over time. The increase in magnitude reflects the presence of air inside a pump chamber.

In the illustrated embodiment, the controller 16 also generates a derivative of the signal output of the sensor 426. Changes in the derivative, or the absence of a derivative, reflects a partial or complete occlusion of flow through the pump chamber PP1 to PP4. The derivative itself also varies in a distinct fashion depending upon whether the occlusion occurs at the inlet or outlet of the pump chamber PP1 to PP4.

IV. The Blood Processing Procedures

A. Double RBC Collection Procedure (No Plasma Collection)

During this procedure, whole blood from a donor is centrifugally processed to yield up to two units (approximately 500 ml) of red blood cells for collection. All plasma constituent is returned to the donor. This procedure will, in shorthand, be called the double red blood cell collection procedure.

Prior to undertaking the double red blood cell collection procedure, as well as any blood collection procedure, the controller 16 operates the manifold assembly 226 to conduct an appropriate integrity check of the cassette 28, to determine whether there are any leaks in the cassette 28. Once the cassette integrity check is complete and no leaks are found, the controller 16 begins the desired blood collection procedure.

The double red blood cell collection procedure includes a pre-collection cycle, a collection cycle, a post-collection cycle, and a storage preparation cycle. During the pre-collection cycle, the set 264 is primed to vent air prior to venipuncture. During the collection cycle, whole blood drawn from the donor is processed to collect two units of red blood cells, while returning plasma to the donor. During the post-collection cycle, excess plasma is returned to the donor, and the set is flushed with saline. During the storage preparation cycle, a red blood cell storage solution is added.

1. The Pre-Collection Cycle

a. Anticoagulant Prime

In a first phase of the pre-collection cycle (AC Prime 1), tube 300 leading to the phlebotomy needle 268 is clamped closed (see Fig. 10). The blood processing circuit 46 is programmed (through the selective application of pressure to the valves and pump stations of the cassette) to operate the donor interface pump PP3, drawing anticoagulant through the

anticoagulant tube 270 and up the donor tube 266 through the y-connector 272 (i.e., in through valve V13 and out through valve V11). The circuit is further programmed to convey air residing in the anticoagulant tube 270, the donor tube 266, and the cassette and into the in-process container 312. This phase continues until an air detector 298 along the donor tube 266 detects liquid, confirming the pumping function of the donor interface pump PP3.

In a second phase of the pre-collection cycle (AC Prime 2), the circuit is programmed to operate the anticoagulant pump PP4 to convey anticoagulant into the in-process container 312. Weight changes in the in-process container 312. AC Prime 2 is terminated when the anticoagulant pump PP4 conveys a predetermined volume of anticoagulant (e.g., 10 g) into the in-process container 312, confirming its pumping function.

b. Saline Prime

In a third phase of the pre-collection cycle (Saline Prime 1), the processing chamber 46 remains stationary. The circuit is programmed to operate the in-process pump station PP1 to draw saline from the saline container 288 through the in-process pump PP1. This creates a reverse flow of saline through the stationary processing chamber 46 toward the in-process container 312. In this sequence saline is drawn through the processing chamber 46 from the saline container 288 into the in-process pump PP1 through valve V14. The saline is expelled from the pump station PP1 toward the in-process container 312 through valve 9. Weight changes in the saline container 288 are monitored. This phase is terminated upon registering a predetermined weight change in the saline container 288, which indicates conveyance of a saline volume sufficient to initially fill about one half of the processing chamber 46 (e.g., about 60 g).

With the processing chamber 46 about half full of priming saline, a fourth phase of the pre-collection cycle

(Saline Prime 2). The processing chamber 46 is rotated at a low rate (e.g., about 300 RPM), while the circuit continues to operate in the same fashion as in Saline Prime 3. Additional saline is drawn into the pump station PP1 through valve V14 and expelled out of the pump station PP1 through valve V9 and into the in-process container 312. Weight changes in the in-process container 312 are monitored. This phase is terminated upon registering a predetermined weight change in the in-process container 312, which indicates the conveyance of an additional volume of saline sufficient to substantially fill the processing chamber 46 (e.g., about 80 g).

In a fifth phase of the pre-collection cycle (Saline Prime 3), the circuit is programmed to first operate the in-process pump station PP1 to convey saline from the in-process container 312 through all outlet ports of the separation device and back into the saline container 288 through the plasma pump station PP2. This completes the priming of the processing chamber 46 and the in-process pump station PP1 (pumping in through valve V9 and out through valve V14), as well as primes the plasma pump station PP2, with the valves V7, V6, V10, and V12 opened to allow passive flow of saline. During this time, the rate at which the processing chamber 46 is rotated is successively ramped between zero and 300 RPM. Weight changes in the in process container 312 are monitored. When a predetermined initial volume of saline is conveyed in this manner, the circuit is programmed to close valve V7, open valves V9 and V14, and to commence pumping saline to the saline container 288 through the plasma pump PP2, in through valve V12 and out through valve V10, allowing saline to passively flow through the in-process pump PP1. Saline is returned in this manner from the in-process container 312 to the saline container 288 until weight sensing indicated that a preestablished minimum volume of saline occupies the in-process container 312.

5 In a sixth phase of the pre-collection cycle (Vent Donor Line), the circuit is programmed to purge air from the venipuncture needle, prior to venipuncture, by operating the donor interface pump PP3 to pump anticoagulant through anticoagulant pump PP4 and into the in process container 312.

10 In a seventh phase of the pre-collection cycle (Venipuncture), the circuit is programmed to close all valves V1 to V23, so that venipuncture can be accomplished.

The programming of the circuit during the phases of the pre-collection cycle is summarized in the following table.

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TABLE
Programming of Blood Processing Circuit During Pre-
Collection Cycle
(Double Red Blood Cell Collection Procedure)

Phase	AC Prime 1	AC Prime 2	Saline Prime 1	Saline Prime 2	Saline Prime 3	Vent Donor Line	Venipuncture
V1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
V2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
V3	○	○	•	•	•	○	•
V4	•	•	○	•	•	•	•
V5	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
V6	•	•	•	•	○	•	•
V7	•	•	•	•	○	•	•
V8	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
V9	•	•	○/• Pump Out	○/• Pump Out	○/• Pump In (Stage 1) ○ (Stage 2)	•	•
V10	•	•	•	•	○ (Stage 1) ○/• Pump Out (Stage 2)	•	•
V11	○/• Pump Out	○	•	•	•	○/• Pump In	•
V12	•	•	•	•	○ (Stage 1) ○/• Pump In (Stage 2)	•	•
V13	○/• Pump In	○	•	•	•	○/• Pump Out	•

Phase	AC Prime 1	AC Prime 2	Saline Prime 1	Saline Prime 2	Saline Prime 3	Vent Donor Line	Venipuncture
V14	●	●	○/● Pump In	○/● Pump In	○/● Pump Out (Stage 1) ○ (Stage 2)	●	●
V15	○	○/● Pump In Pump Out	●	●	●	○	●
V16	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
V17	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
V18	○	○	●	●	●	○	●
V19	○	○	●	●	●	○	●
V20	○	○/● Pump Out Pump In	●	●	●	○	●
V21	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
V22	●	●	○	○	○	●	●
V23	●	●	○	○	○	●	●
PP1	■	■	□	□	□ (Stage 1)	■	■
PP2	■	■	■	■	□ (Stage 2)	■	■
PP3	□	■	■	■	■	□	■
PP4	■	□	■	■	■	■	■

Caption: ○ denotes an open valve; ● denotes a closed valve; ○/● denotes a valve opening and closing during a pumping sequence; ■ denotes an idle pump station (not in use); and □ denotes a pump station in use.

c. The Collection Cycle

i. Blood Prime

With venipuncture, tube 300 leading to the phlebotomy needle 268 is opened. In a first phase of the collection

cycle (Blood Prime 1), the blood processing circuit 46 is programmed (through the selective application of pressure to the valves and pump stations of the cassette) to operate the donor interface pump PP3 (i.e., in through valve V13 and out through valve V11) and the anticoagulant pump PP4 (i.e., in through valve V20 and out through valve V15) to draw anticoagulated blood through the donor tube 270 into the in process container 312. This phase continues until an incremental volume of anticoagulated whole blood enters the in process container 312, as monitored by the weigh sensor.

In a next phase (Blood Prime 2), the blood processing circuit 46 is programmed to operate the in-process pump station PP1 to draw anticoagulated blood from the in-process container 312 through the separation device. During this phase, saline displaced by the blood is returned to the donor. This phase primes the separation device with anticoagulated whole blood. This phase continues until an incremental volume of anticoagulated whole blood leaves the in process container 312, as monitored by the weigh sensor.

B. Blood Separation While Drawing Whole Blood or Without Drawing Whole Blood

In a next phase of the blood collection cycle (Blood Separation While Drawing Whole Blood), the blood processing circuit 46 is programmed to operate the donor interface pump station PP3 (i.e., in through valve V13 and out through valve V11); the anticoagulant pump PP4 (i.e., in through valve V20 and out through valve V15); the in-process pump PP1 (i.e., in through valve V9 and out through valve V14); and the plasma pump PP2 (i.e., in through valve V12 and out through valve V10). This arrangement draws anticoagulated blood into the in-process container 312, while conveying the blood from the in-process container 312 into the processing chamber for separation. This arrangement also removes plasma from the processing chamber into the plasma container 304, while removing red blood cells from the processing chamber

into the red blood cell container 308. This phase continues until an incremental volume of plasma is collected in the plasma collection container 304 (as monitored by the weigh sensor) or until a targeted volume of red blood cells is collected in the red blood cell collection container (as monitored by the weigh sensor).

If the volume of whole blood in the in-process container 312 reaches a predetermined maximum threshold before the targeted volume of either plasma or red blood cells is collected, the circuit is programmed for another phase (Blood Separation Without Drawing Whole Blood), to terminate operation of the donor interface pump station PP3 (while also closing valves V13, V11, V18, and V13) to terminate collection of whole blood in the in-process container 312, while still continuing blood separation. If the volume of whole blood reaches a predetermined minimum threshold in the in-process container 312 during blood separation, but before the targeted volume of either plasma or red blood cells is collected, the circuit is programmed to return to the Blood Separation While Drawing Whole Blood Phase, to thereby allow whole blood to enter the in-process container 312. The circuit is programmed to toggle between the Blood Separation While Drawing Whole Blood Phase and the Blood Separation Without Drawing Whole Blood Phase according to the high and low volume thresholds for the in-process container 312, until the requisite volume of plasma has been collected, or until the target volume of red blood cells has been collected, whichever occurs first.

C. Return Plasma and Saline

If the targeted volume of red blood cells has not been collected, the next phase of the blood collection cycle (Return Plasma With Separation) programs the blood processing circuit 46 to operate the donor interface pump station PP3 (i.e., in through valve V11 and out through valve V13); the in-process pump PP1 (i.e., in through valve

V9 and out through valve V14); and the plasma pump PP2 (i.e., in through valve V12 and out through valve V10). This arrangement conveys anticoagulated whole blood from the in-process container 312 into the processing chamber for separation, while removing plasma into the plasma container 304 and red blood cells into the red blood cell container 308. This arrangement also conveys plasma from the plasma container 304 to the donor, while also mixing saline from the container 288 in line with the returned plasma. The in line mixing of saline with plasma raises the saline temperature and improves donor comfort. This phase continues until the plasma container 304 is empty, as monitored by the weigh sensor.

If the volume of whole blood in the in-process container 312 reaches a specified low threshold before the plasma container 304 empties, the circuit is programmed to enter another phase (Return Plasma Without Separation), to terminate operation of the in-process pump station PP1 (while also closing valves V9, V10, V12, and V14) to terminate blood separation. The phase continues until the plasma container 304 empties.

Upon emptying the plasma container 304, the circuit is programmed to enter a phase (Fill Donor Line), to operate the donor interface pump station PP3 (i.e., in through valve V11 and out through valve V13) to draw whole blood from the in process container 312 to fill the donor tube 266, thereby purge plasma (mixed with saline) in preparation for another draw whole blood cycle.

The circuit is then programmed to conduct another Blood Separation While Drawing Whole Blood Phase, to refill the in process container 312. The circuit is programmed in successive Blood Separation and Return Plasma Phases until the weigh sensor indicates that a desired volume of red blood cells have been collected in the red blood cell collection container 308. When the targeted volume of red

blood cells has not been collected, the post-collection cycle commences.

The programming of the circuit during the phases of the collection cycle is summarized in the following table.

5

TABLE

Programming of Blood Processing Circuit During The
Collection Cycle

(Double Red Blood Cell Collection Procedure)

10

15

20

Phase	Blood Prime 1	Blood Prime 2	Blood Separation While Drawing Whole Blood (Without Drawing Whole Blood)	Return Plasma/ with Separation (Without Separation)	Fill Donor Line
V1	•	•	•	•	○
V2	•	•	○	○ (•)	•
V3	○	•	○ (•)	•	•
V4	•	•	•	•	•
V5	•	•	○	○	•
V6	•	•	•	○/• Alternates with V23	•
V7	•	○	•	•	○
V8	•	•	•	•	•
V9	•	○/• Pump In	○/• Pump In	○/• Pump In (•)	•
V10	•	•	○/• Pump Out	○/• Pump Out (•)	•
V11	○/• Pump Out	○	○/• Pump Out (•)	○/• Pump In	○/• Pump In
V12	•	•	○/• Pump In	○/• Pump In (•)	•
V13	○/• Pump In	○	○/• Pump In (•)	○/• Pump Out	○/• Pump Out

Phase	Blood Prime 1	Blood Prime 2	Blood Separation Whole Drawing Whole Blood (Without Drawing Whole Blood)	Return Plasma/ with Separation (Without Separation)	Fill Donor Line
V14	●	○/● Pump Out	○/● Pump Out	○/● Pump Out (●)	●
V15	○/● Pump Out	●	○/● Pump Out (●)	●	●
V16	●	●	●	●	●
V17	●	●	●	●	●
V18	○	○	○ (●)	○	○
V19	○	●	○ (●)	●	●
V20	○/● Pump Out	●	○/● Pump In (●)	●	●
V21	●	●	●	●	●
V22	●	●	●	○	●
V23	●	●	●	○/● Alternates with V6	●
PP1	■	□	□	□ (■)	■
PP2	■	■	□	□ (■)	■
PP3	□	■	□ (■)	□	□
PP4	□	■	□ (■)	■	■

Caption: ○ denotes an open valve; ● denotes a closed valve; ○/● denotes a valve opening and closing during a pumping sequence; ■ denotes an idle pump station (not in use); and □ denotes a pump station in use.

D. The Post-Collection Cycle

Once the targeted volume of red blood cells has been

collected (as monitored by the weigh sensor), the circuit is programmed to carry out the phases of the post-collection cycle.

1. Return Excess Plasma

5 In a first phase of the post-collection cycle (Excess Plasma Return), the circuit is programmed to terminate the supply and removal of blood to and from the processing chamber, while operating the donor interface pump station PP3 (i.e., in through valve V11 and out through valve V13) to convey plasma remaining in the plasma container 304 to the donor. The circuit is also programmed in this phase to mix saline from the container 288 in line with the returned plasma. This phase continues until the plasma container 304 is empty, as monitored by the weigh sensor.

2. Saline Purge

15 In the next phase of the post-collection cycle (Saline Purge), the circuit is programmed to operate the donor interface pump station PP3 (i.e., in through valve V11 and out through valve V11) to convey saline from the container 288 through the separation device, to displace the blood contents of the separation device into the in-process container 312, in preparation for their return to the donor. This phase reduces the loss of donor blood. This phase continues until a predetermined volume of saline is pumped through the separation device, as monitored by the weigh sensor.

3. Final Return to Donor

25 In the next phase of the post-collection cycle (Final Return), the circuit is programmed to operate the donor interface pump station PP3 (i.e., in through valve V11 and out through valve V13) to convey the blood contents of the in-process container 312 to the donor. Saline is intermittently mixed with the blood contents. This phase continues until the in-process container 312 is empty, as monitored by the weigh sensor.

In the next phase (Fluid Replacement), the circuit is programmed to operate the donor interface pump station PP3 (i.e., in through valve V11 and out through valve V13) to convey the saline to the donor. This phase continues until a prescribed replacement volume amount is infused, as monitored by the weigh sensor.

In the next phase of the post-collection cycle (Empty In Process Container), the circuit is programmed to operate the donor interface pump station PP3 (i.e., in through valve V11 and out through valve V13) to convey all remaining contents of the in-process container 312 to the donor, in preparation of splitting the contents of the red blood cell container 308 for storage in both containers 308 and 312. This phase continues until a zero volume reading for the in-process container 312 occurs, as monitored by the weigh sensor, and air is detected at the air detector.

At this phase, the circuit is programmed to close all valves and idle all pump stations, so that the phlebotomy needle 268 can be removed from the donor.

The programming of the circuit during the phases of the post-collection cycle is summarized in the following table.

TABLE
Programming of Blood Processing Circuit During The Post-Collection Cycle
(Double Red Blood Cell Collection Procedure)

Phase	Excess Plasma Return	Saline Purge	Final Return	Fluid Replacement	Empty In Process Container
V1	•	•	o	•	o
V2	•	•	•	•	•
V3	•	•	•	•	•
V4	•	o	•	•	•
V5	o	•	•	•	•
V6	o/• Alternates with V23	•	•	•	•

Phase	Excess Plasma Return	Saline Purge	Final Return	Fluid Replacement	Empty In Process Container
V7	●	●	○/● Alternates with V23	●	○
V8	●	●	●	●	●
V9	○	○	●	●	●
V10	●	●	●	●	●
V11	○/● Pump In	○/● Pump In/ Pump Out	○/● Pump In	○/● Pump In	○/● Pump In
V12	●	●	●	●	●
V13	○/● Pump Out	●	○/● Pump Out	○/● Pump Out	○/● Pump Out
V14	●	○	●	●	●
V15	●	●	●	●	●
V16	●	●	●	●	●
V17	●	●	●	●	●
V18	○	●	○	○	○
V19	●	●	●	●	●
V20	●	●	●	●	●
V21	●	●	●	●	●
V22	○	○	○	○	●
V23	○/● Alternates with V6	○	○/● Alternates with V7	○	●
PP1	■	■	■	■	■
PP2	■	■	■	■	■
PP3	□	□	□	□	□
PP4	■	■	■	■	■

Caption: ○ denotes an open valve; ● denotes a closed valve;

○/● denotes a valve opening and closing during a pumping sequence; ■ denotes an idle pump station (not in use); and □ denotes a pump station in use.

E. The Storage Preparation Cycle

1. Split RBC

In the first phase of the storage preparation cycle (Split RBC), the circuit is programmed to operate the donor interface pump station PP3 to transfer half of the contents of the red blood cell collection container 308 into the in-process container 312. The volume pumped is monitored by the weigh sensors for the containers 308 and 312.

2. Add RBC Preservative

In the next phases of the storage preparation cycle (Add Storage Solution to the In Process Container and Add Storage Solution to the Red Blood Cell Collection Container), the circuit is programmed to operate the donor interface pump station PP3 to transfer a desired volume of red blood cell storage solution from the container 280 first into the in-process container 312 and then into the red blood cell collection container 308. The transfer of the desired volume is monitored by the weigh scale.

In the next and final phase (End Procedure), the circuit is programmed to close all valves and idle all pump stations, so that the red blood cell containers 308 and 312 can be separated and removed for storage. The remainder of the disposable set can now be removed and discarded.

The programming of the circuit during the phases of the storage preparation cycle is summarized in the following table.

TABLE

Programming of Blood Processing Circuit During The Storage Preparation Cycle
(Double Red Blood Cell Collection Procedure)

Phase	Split RBC Between RBC Collection and In Process Containers	Add Storage Solution to In Process Container	Add Storage Solution to RBC Collection Container	End Procedure (Remove Veni- puncture)
V1	•	•	•	•
V2	o	•	o	•
V3	o/• Alternates with V11 and V4	o	•	•
V4	o/• Alternates with V11 and V4	•	o	•
V5	•	•	•	•
V6	•	•	•	•
V7	•	•	•	•
V8	•	•	•	•
V9	•	•	•	•
V10	•	•	•	•
V11	o/• Pump In/ Pump Out	o/• Pump In/ Pump Out	o/• Pump In/ Pump Out	•
V12	•	•	•	•
V13	•	•	•	•
V14	•	•	•	•
V15	•	•	•	•
V16	•	o	o	•
V17	•	•	•	•
V18	•	•	•	•
V19	•	•	•	•
V20	•	•	•	•
V21	•	o	o	•
V22	•	•	•	•
V23	•	•	•	•
PP1	■	■	■	■

Phase	Split RBC Between RBC Collection and In Process Containers	Add Storage Solution to In Process Container	Add Storage Solution to RBC Collection Container	End Procedure (Remove Veni- puncture)
PP2	■	■	■	■
PP3	□	□	□	■
PP4	■	■	■	■

5 Caption: ○ denotes an open valve; ● denotes a closed valve;
○/● denotes a valve opening and closing during a pumping
sequence; ■ denotes an idle pump station (not in use); and
□ denotes a pump station in use.

F. Plasma Collection (No Red Blood Cell Collection)

10 During this procedure, whole blood from a donor is
centrifugally processed to yield up to 880 ml of plasma for
collection. All red blood cells are returned to the donor.
This procedure will, in shorthand, be called the plasma
collection procedure.

15 Programming of the blood processing circuit 46 (through
the selective application of pressure to the valves and pump
stations of the cassette) makes it possible to use the same
universal set 264 as in the double red blood cell collection
procedure.

20 The procedure includes a pre-collection cycle, a
collection cycle, and a post-collection cycle.

During the pre-collection cycle, the set 264 is primed
to vent air prior to venipuncture. During the collection
cycle, whole blood drawn from the donor is processed to
25 collect plasma, while returning red blood cells to the
donor. During the post-collection cycle, excess plasma is
returned to the donor, and the set is flushed with saline.

1. The Pre-Collection Cycle

a. Anticoagulant Prime

30 In the pre-collection cycle for the plasma collection
(no red blood cells) procedure, the cassette is programmed

to carry out AC Prime 1 and AC Prime 2 Phases that are identical to the AC Prime 1 and AC Prime 2 Phases of the double red blood cell collection procedure.

b. Saline Prime

In the pre-collection cycle for the plasma collection (no red blood cell) procedure, the cassette is programmed to carry out Saline Prime 1, Saline Prime 2, Saline Prime 3, Vent Donor Line, and Venipuncture Phases that are identical to the Saline Prime 1, Saline Prime 2, Saline Prime 3, Vent Donor Line, and Venipuncture Phases of the double red blood cell collection procedure.

The programming of the circuit during the phases of the pre-collection cycle is summarized in the following table.

TABLE

Programming of Blood Processing Circuit During Pre-Collection Phase

(Plasma Collection Procedure)

Phase	AC Prime 1	AC Prime 2	Saline Prime 1	Saline Prime 2	Saline Prime 3	Vent Donor Line	Veni-puncture
V1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
V2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
V3	o	o	•	•	•	o	•
V4	•	•	o	•	•	•	•
V5	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
V6	•	•	•	•	o	•	•
V7	•	•	•	•	o	•	•
V8	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
V9	•	•	o/• Pump Out	o/• Pump Out	o/• Pump In (Stage 1) o (Stage 2)	•	•

10

Phase	AC Prime 1	AC Prime 2	Saline Prime 1	Saline Prime 2	Saline Prime 3	Vent Donor Line	Venipuncture
V10	●	●	●	●	○ (Stage 1) ○/● Pump Out (Stage 2)	●	●
V11	○/● Pump Out	○	●	●	●	○/● Pump In	●
V12	●	●	●	●	○ (Stage 1) ○/● Pump In (Stage 2)	●	●
V13	○/● Pump In	○	●	●	●	○/● Pump Out	●
V14	●	●	○/● Pump In	○/● Pump In	○/● Pump Out (Stage 1) ○ (Stage 2)	●	●
V15	○	○/● Pump In Pump Out	●	●	●	○	●
V16	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
V17	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
V18	○	○	●	●	●	○	●
V19	○	○	●	●	●	○	●
V20	○	○/● Pump Out Pump In	●	●	●	○	●
V21	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
V22	●	●	○	○	○	●	●
V23	●	●	○	○	○	●	●

Phase	AC Prime 1	AC Prime 2	Saline Prime 1	Saline Prime 2	Saline Prime 3	Vent Donor Line	Veni- puncture
PP1	■	■	□	□	□ (Stage 1)	■	■
PP2	■	■	■	■	□ (Stage 2)	■	■
PP3	□	■	■	■	■	□	■
PP4	■	□	■	■	■	■	■

Caption: ○ denotes an open valve; ● denotes a closed valve;
○/● denotes a valve opening and closing during a pumping
sequence; ■ denotes an idle pump station (not in use); and
□ denotes a pump station in use.

2. The Collection Cycle

a. Blood Prime

With venipuncture, tube 300 leading to the phlebotomy
needle 268 is opened. In a first phase of the collection
cycle (Blood Prime 1), the blood processing circuit 46 is
programmed to operate the donor interface pump PP3 (i.e., in
through valve V13 and out through valve V11) and the
anticoagulant pump PP4 (i.e., in through valve V20 and out
through valve V15) to draw anticoagulated blood through the
donor tube 270 into the in process container 312, in the
same fashion as the Blood Prime 1 Phase of the the double
red blood cell collection procedure, as already described.

In a next phase (Blood Prime 2), the blood processing
circuit 46 is programmed to operate the in-process pump
station PP1 to draw anticoagulated blood from the in-process
container 312 through the separation device, in the same
fashion as the Blood Prime 2 Phase for the double red blood
cell collection procedure, as already described. During
this phase, saline displaced by the blood is returned to the
donor.

b. Blood Separation While Drawing

Whole Blood or Without Drawing

Whole Blood

In a next phase of the blood collection cycle (Blood Separation While Drawing Whole Blood), the blood processing circuit 46 is programmed to operate the donor interface pump station PP3 (i.e., in through valve V13 and out through valve V11); the anticoagulant pump PP4 (i.e., in through valve V20 and out through valve V15); the in-process pump PP1 (i.e., in through valve V9 and out through valve V14); and the plasma pump PP2 (i.e., in through valve V12 and out through valve V10), in the same fashion as the Blood Separation While Drawing Whole Blood Phase for the double red blood cell collection procedure, as already described. This arrangement draws anticoagulated blood into the in-process container 312, while conveying the blood from the in-process container 312 into the processing chamber for separation. This arrangement also removes plasma from the processing chamber into the plasma container 304, while removing red blood cells from the processing chamber into the red blood cell container 308. This phase continues until the targeted volume of plasma is collected in the plasma collection container 304 (as monitored by the weigh sensor) or until a targeted volume of red blood cells is collected in the red blood cell collection container (as monitored by the weigh sensor).

As in the double red blood cell collection procedure, if the volume of whole blood in the in-process container 312 reaches a predetermined maximum threshold before the targeted volume of either plasma or red blood cells is collected, the circuit is programmed to enter another phase (Blood Separation Without Drawing Whole Blood), to terminate operation of the donor interface pump station PP3 (while also closing valves V13, V11, V18, and V13) to terminate collection of whole blood in the in-process container 312, while still continuing blood separation. If the volume of

whole blood reaches a predetermined minimum threshold in the in-process container 312 during blood separation, but before the targeted volume of either plasma or red blood cells is collected, the circuit is programmed to return to the Blood Separation While Drawing Whole Blood Phase, to thereby refill the in-process container 312. The circuit is programmed to toggle between the Blood Separation Phases while drawing whole blood and without drawing whole blood, according to the high and low volume thresholds for the in-process container 312, until the requisite volume of plasma has been collected, or until the target volume of red blood cells has been collected, whichever occurs first.

c. Return Red Blood Cells /Saline

If the targeted volume of plasma has not been collected, the next phase of the blood collection cycle (Return Red Blood Cells With Separation) programs the blood processing circuit 46 to operate the donor interface pump station PP3 (i.e., in through valve V11 and out through valve V13); the in-process pump PP1 (i.e., in through valve V9 and out through valve V14); and the plasma pump PP2 (i.e., in through valve V12 and out through valve V10). This arrangement conveys anticoagulated whole blood from the in-process container 312 into the processing chamber for separation, while removing plasma into the plasma container 304 and red blood cells into the red blood cell container 308. This arrangement also conveys red blood cells from the red blood cell container 308 to the donor, while also mixing saline from the container 288 in line with the returned red blood cells. The in line mixing of saline with the red blood cells raises the saline temperature and improves donor comfort. The in line mixing of saline with the red blood cells also lowers the hematocrit of the red blood cells being returned to the donor, thereby allowing a larger gauge (i.e., smaller diameter) phlebotomy needle to be used, to further improve donor comfort. This phase continues until

the red blood cell container 308 is empty, as monitored by the weigh sensor.

If the volume of whole blood in the in-process container 312 reaches a specified low threshold before the red blood cell container 308 empties, the circuit is programmed to enter another phase (Red Blood Cell Return Without Separation), to terminate operation of the in-process pump station PP1 (while also closing valves V9, V10, V12, and V14) to terminate blood separation. The phase continues until the red blood cell container 308 empties.

Upon emptying the red blood cell container 308, the circuit is programmed to enter another phase (Fill Donor Line), to operate the donor interface pump station PP3 (i.e., in through valve V11 and out through valve V13) to draw whole blood from the in process container 312 to fill the donor tube 266, thereby purge red blood cells (mixed with saline) in preparation for another draw whole blood cycle.

The circuit is then programmed to conduct another Blood Separation While Drawing Whole Blood Phase, to refill the in process container 312. The circuit is programmed to conduct successive draw whole blood and return red blood cells / saline cycles, as dsecrbed, until the weigh sensor indicates that a desired volume of plasma has been collected in the plasma collection container 304. When the targeted volume of plasma has been collected, the post-collection cycle commences.

The programming of the circuit during the phases of the collection cycle is summarized in the following table.

TABLE

Programming of Blood Processing Circuit During The
Collection Cycle
(Plasma Collection Procedure)

10

Phase	Blood Prime 1	Blood Prime 2	Blood Separation While Drawing Whole Blood (Without Drawing Whole Blood)	Return Red Blood Cells / Saline with Separation (Without Separation)	Fill Donor Line
V1	●	●	●	●	○
V2	●	●	○	○	●
V3	○	●	○ (●)	●	●
V4	●	●	●	●	●
V5	●	●	○	○ (●)	●
V6	●	●	●	●	●
V7	●	○	●	○/● Alternates with V23	○
V8	●	●	●	●	●
V9	●	○/● Pump In	○/● Pump In	○/● Pump In (●)	●
V10	●	●	○/● Pump Out	○/● Pump Out (●)	●
V11	○/● Pump Out	○	○/● Pump Out (●)	○/● Pump In	○/● Pump In
V12	●	●	○/● Pump In	○/● Pump In (●)	●
V13	○/● Pump In	○	○/● Pump In (●)	○/● Pump Out	○/● Pump Out
V14	●	○/● Pump Out	○/● Pump Out	○/● Pump Out (●)	●
V15	○/● Pump Out	●	○/● Pump Out (●)	●	●
V16	●	●	●	●	●
V17	●	●	●	●	●
V18	○	○	○ (●)	○	○

Phase	Blood Prime 1	Blood Prime 2	Blood Separation While Drawing Whole Blood (Without Drawing Whole Blood)	Return Red Blood Cells / Saline with Separation (Without Separation)	Fill Donor Line
V19	○	●	○ (●)	●	●
V20	○/● Pump Out	●	○/● Pump In (●)	●	●
V21	●	●	●	●	●
V22	●	●	●	○	●
V23	●	●	●	○/● Alternates with V7	●
PP1	■	□	□	□ (■)	■
PP2	■	■	□	□ (■)	■
PP3	□	■	□ (■)	□	□
PP4	□	■	□ (■)	■	■

Caption: ○ denotes an open valve; ● denotes a closed valve; ○/● denotes a valve opening and closing during a pumping sequence; ■ denotes an idle pump station (not in use); and □ denotes a pump station in use.

d. The Post-Collection Cycle

Once the targeted volume of plasma has been collected (as monitored by the weigh sensor), the circuit is programmed to carry out the phases of the post-collection cycle.

3. Return Excess Red Blood Cells

In a first phase of the post-collection cycle (Remove Plasma Collection Container), the circuit is programmed to close all valves and disable all pump stations to allow separation of the plasma collection container 304 from the

set 264.

5 In the second phase of the post-collection cycle
(Return Red Blood Cells), the circuit is programmed to
operate the donor interface pump station PP3 (i.e., in
through valve V11 and out through valve V13) to convey red
blood cells remaining in the red blood cell collection
container 308 to the donor. The circuit is also programmed
in this phase to mix saline from the container 288 in line
with the returned red blood cells. This phase continues
10 until the red blood cell container 308 is empty, as
monitored by the weigh sensor.

4. Saline Purge

15 In the next phase of the post-collection cycle (Saline
Purge), the circuit is programmed to operate the donor
interface pump station PP3 (i.e., in through valve V11 and
out through valve V11) to convey saline from the container
288 through the separation device, to displace the blood
contents of the separation device into the in-process
container 312, in preparation for their return to the donor.
20 This phase reduces the loss of donor blood. This phase
continues until a predetermined volume of saline is pumped
through the separation device, as monitored by the weigh
sensor.

5. Final Return to Donor

25 In the next phase of the post-collection cycle (Final
Return), the circuit is programmed to operate the donor
interface pump station PP3 (i.e., in through valve V11 and
out through valve V13) to convey the blood contents of the
in-process container 312 to the donor. Saline is
30 intermittently mixed with the blood contents. This phase
continues until the in-process container 312 is empty, as
monitored by the weigh sensor.

35 In the next phase (Fluid Replacement), the circuit is
programmed to operate the donor interface pump station PP3
(i.e., in through valve V11 and out through valve V13) to

convey the saline to the donor. This phase continues until a prescribed replacement volume amount is infused, as monitored by the weigh sensor.

In the final phase (End Procedure), the circuit is programmed to close all valves and idle all pump stations, so that venipuncture can be terminated, and the plasma container can be separated and removed for storage. The remaining parts of the disposable set can be removed and discarded.

The programming of the circuit during the phases of the post-collection cycle is summarized in the following table.

TABLE
Programming of Blood Processing Circuit During The Post-Collection Cycle
(Plasma Collection Procedure)

Phase	Remove Plasma Collection Container	Return RBC	Saline Purge	Final Return	Fluid Replacement	End Procedure
V1	•	•	•	○	•	•
V2	•	○	•	•	•	•
V3	•	•	•	•	•	•
V4	•	•	○	•	•	•
V5	•	•	•	•	•	•
V6	•	•	•	•	•	•
V7	•	○/• Alternates with V23	•	○/• Alternates with V23	•	•
V8	•	•	•	•	•	•
V9	•	○	○	•	•	•
V10	•	•	•	•	•	•
V11	•	○/• Pump In	○/• Pump In/ Pump Out	○/• Pump In	○/• Pump In	•

Phase	Remove Plasma Collection Container	Return RBC	Saline Purge	Final Return	Fluid Replacement	End Procedure
V12	•	•	•	•	•	•
V13	•	o/• Pump Out	•	o/• Pump Out	o/• Pump Out	•
V14	•	•	o	•	•	•
V15	•	•	•	•	•	•
V16	•	•	•	•	•	•
V17	•	•	•	•	•	•
V18	•		•	o	o	•
V19	•	•	•	•	•	•
V20	•	•	•	•	•	•
V21	•	•	•	•	•	•
V22	•	o	o	o	o	•
V23	•	o/• Altern ates with V6	o	o/• Altern ates with V7	o	•
PP1	■	■	■	■	■	■
PP2	■	■	■	■	■	■
PP3	■	□	□	□	□	
PP4	■	■	■	■	■	

Caption: o denotes an open valve; • denotes a closed valve;
o/• denotes a valve opening and closing during a pumping
sequence; ■ denotes an idle pump station (not in use); and
□ denotes a pump station in use.

G. Red Blood Cell and Plasma Collection

During this procedure, whole blood from a donor is centrifugally processed to collect up to about 550 ml of

plasma and up to about 250 ml of red blood cells. This procedure will, in shorthand, be called the red blood cell/plasma collection procedure.

5 The portion of the red blood cells not retained for collection are periodically returned to the donor during blood separation. Plasma collected in excess of the 550 ml target and red blood cells collected in excess of the 250 ml target are also returned to the donor at the end of the procedure.

10 Programming of the blood processing circuit 46 (through the selective application of pressure to the valves and pump stations of the cassette) makes it possible to use the same universal set 264 used to carry out the double red blood cell collection or the plasma collection procedure.

15 The procedure includes a pre-collection cycle, a collection cycle, and a post-collection cycle, and a storage preparation cycle.

During the pre-collection cycle, the set 264 is primed to vent air prior to venipuncture. During the collection cycle, whole blood drawn from the donor is processed to collect plasma and red blood cells, while returning a portion of the red blood cells to the donor. During the post-collection cycle, excess plasma and red blood cells are returned to the donor, and the set is flushed with saline.
20 During the storage preparation cycle, a red blood cell storage solution added to the collected red blood cells.

(1) The Pre-Collection Cycle

a. Anticoagulant Prime

30 In the pre-collection cycle for the red blood cell / plasma collection procedure, the cassette is programmed to carry out AC Prime 1 and AC Prime 2 Phases that are identical to the AC Prime 1 and AC Prime 2 Phases of the double red blood cell collection procedure.

b. Saline Prime

35 In the pre-collection cycle for the red blood cell /

plasma collection procedure, the cassette is programmed to carry out Saline Prime 1, Saline Prime 2, Saline Prime 3, Vent Donor Line, and Venipuncture Phases that are identical to the Saline Prime 1, Saline Prime 2, Saline Prime 3, Vent Donor Line, and Venipuncture Phases of the double red blood cell collection procedure.

The programming of the circuit during the phases of the pre-collection cycle is summarized in the following table.

TABLE
Programming of Blood Processing Circuit During Pre-Collection Cycle
(Red Blood Cell / Plasma Collection Procedure)

Phase	AC Prime 1	AC Prime 2	Saline Prime 1	Saline Prime 2	Saline Prime 3	Vent Donor Line	Veni-puncture
V1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
V2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
V3	o	o	•	•	•	o	•
V4	•	•	o	•	•	•	•
V5	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
V6	•	•	•	•	o	•	•
V7	•	•	•	•	o	•	•
V8	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
V9	•	•	o/• Pump Out	o/• Pump Out	o/• Pump In (Stage 1) o (Stage 2)	•	•
V10	•	•	•	•	o (Stage 1) o/• Pump Out (Stage 2)	•	•
V11	o/• Pump Out	o	•	•	•	o/• Pump In	•

Phase	AC Prime 1	AC Prime 2	Saline Prime 1	Saline Prime 2	Saline Prime 3	Vent Donor Line	Venipuncture
V12	●	●	●	●	○ (Stage 1) ○/● Pump In (Stage 2)	●	●
V13	○/● Pump In	○	●	●	●	○/● Pump Out	●
V14	●	●	○/● Pump In	○/● Pump In	○/● Pump Out (Stage 1) ○ (Stage 2)	●	●
V15	○	○/● Pump In Pump Out	●	●	●	○	●
V16	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
V17	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
V18	○	○	●	●	●	○	●
V19	○	○	●	●	●	○	●
V20	○	○/● Pump Out Pump In	●	●	●	○	●
V21	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
V22	●	●	○	○	○	●	●
V23	●	●	○	○	○	●	●
PP1	■	■	□	□	□ (Stage 1)	■	■
PP2	■	■	■	■	□ (Stage 2)	■	■
PP3	□	■	■	■	■	□	■
PP4	■	□	■	■	■	■	■

Caption: ○ denotes an open valve; ● denotes a closed valve;

○/● denotes a valve opening and closing during a pumping sequence; ■ denotes an idle pump station (not in use); and □ denotes a pump station in use.

2. The Collection Cycle

5

a. Blood Prime

With venipuncture, tube 300 leading to the phlebotomy needle 268 is opened. The collection cycle of the red blood cell / plasma collection procedure programs the circuit to carry out Blood Prime 1 and Blood Prime 2 Phases that are identical to the Blood Prime 1 and Blood Prime 2 Phases of the Double Red Blood Cell Collection Procedure, already described.

10

b. Blood Separation While Drawing Whole Blood or Without Drawing Whole Blood

15

20

25

30

In the blood collection cycle for the red blood cell / plasma collection procedure, the circuit is programmed to conduct a Blood Separation While Drawing Whole Blood Phase, in the same fashion that the Blood Separation While Drawing Whole Blood Phase is conducted for the double red blood cell collection procedure. This arrangement draws anticoagulated blood into the in-process container 312, while conveying the blood from the in-process container 312 into the processing chamber for separation. This arrangement also removes plasma from the processing chamber into the plasma container 304, while removing red blood cells from the processing chamber into the red blood cell container 308. This phase continues until the desired maximum volumes of plasma and red blood cells have been collected in the plasma and red blood cell collection containers 304 and 308 (as monitored by the weigh sensor).

35

As in the double red blood cell collection procedure and the plasma collection procedure, if the volume of whole blood in the in-process container 312 reaches a predetermined maximum threshold before the targeted volume of either plasma or red blood cells is collected, the

5 circuit is programmed to enter a phase (Blood Separation
Without Whole Blood Draw) to terminate operation of the
donor interface pump station PP3 (while also closing valves
V13, V11, V18, and V13) to terminate collection of whole
10 blood in the in-process container 312, while still
continuing blood separation. If the volume of whole blood
reaches a predetermined minimum threshold in the in-process
container 312 during blood separation, but before the
targeted volume of either plasma or red blood cells is
15 collected, the circuit is programmed to return to the Blood
Separation With Whole Blood Draw, to thereby refill the in-
process container 312. The circuit is programmed to toggle
between the Blood Separation cycle with whole blood draw and
without whole blood draw according to the high and low
20 volume thresholds for the in-process container 312, until
the requisite maximum volumes of plasma and red blood cells
have been collected.

c. Return Red Blood Cells and Saline

20 If the targeted volume of plasma has not been
collected, and red blood cells collected in the red blood
cell container 308 exceed a predetermined maximum threshold,
the next phase of the blood collection cycle (Return Red
Blood Cells With Separation) programs the blood processing
circuit 46 to operate the donor interface pump station PP3
25 (i.e., in through valve V11 and out through valve V13); the
in-process pump PP1 (i.e., in through valve V9 and out
through valve V14); and the plasma pump PP2 (i.e., in
through valve V12 and out through valve V10). This
arrangement continues to convey anticoagulated whole blood
30 from the in-process container 312 into the processing
chamber for separation, while removing plasma into the
plasma container 304 and red blood cells into the red blood
cell container 308. This arrangement also conveys all or a
portion of the red blood cells collected in the red blood
35 cell container 308 to the donor. This arrangement also

mixes saline from the container 288 in line with the returned red blood cells. The in line mixing of saline with the red blood cells raises the saline temperature and improves donor comfort. The in line mixing of saline with the red blood cells also lowers the hematocrit of the red blood cells being returned to the donor, thereby allowing a larger gauge (i.e., smaller diameter) phlebotomy needle to be used, to further improve donor comfort.

This phase can continue until the red blood cell container 308 is empty, as monitored by the weigh sensor, thereby corresponding to the Return Red Blood Cells With Separation Phase of the plasma collection procedure. Preferably, however, the processor determines how much additional plasma needs to be collected to meet the plasma target volume. From this, the processor derives the incremental red blood cell volume associated with the incremental plasma volume. In this arrangement, the processor returns a partial volume of red blood cells to the donor, so that, upon collection of the next incremental red blood cell volume, the total volume of red blood cells in the container 308 will be at or slightly over the targeted red blood cell collection volume.

If the volume of whole blood in the in-process container 312 reaches a specified low threshold before return of the desired volume of red blood cells, the circuit is programmed to enter a phase (Return Red Blood Cells Without Separation), to terminate operation of the in-process pump station PP1 (while also closing valves V9, V10, V12, and V14) to terminate blood separation. This phase corresponds to the Return Red Blood Cells Without Separation Phase of the plasma collection procedure.

Upon returning the desired volume of red blood cells from the container 308, the circuit is programmed to enter a phase (Fill Donor Line), to operate the donor interface pump station PP3 (i.e., in through valve V11 and out through

valve V13) to draw whole blood from the in process container 312 to fill the donor tube 266, thereby purge red blood cells (mixed with saline) in preparation for another draw whole blood cycle.

The circuit is then programmed to conduct another Blood Separation While Drawing Whole Blood Phase, to refill the in process container 312. If required, the circuit is capable of performing successive draw whole blood and return red blood cells cycles, until the weigh sensors indicate that volumes of red blood cells and plasma collected in the containers 304 and 308 are at or somewhat greater than the targeted values. The post-collection cycle then commences.

The programming of the circuit during the phases of the collection cycle is summarized in the following table.

TABLE
Programming of Blood Processing Circuit During The
Collection Cycle
(Red Blood Cell / Plasma Collection Procedure)

Phase	Blood Prime 1	Blood Prime 2	Blood Separation While Drawing Whole Blood (Without Drawing Whole Blood)	Return Red Blood Cells / Saline with Separation (Without Separation)	Fill Donor Line
V1	•	•	•	•	○
V2	•	•	○	○	•
V3	○	•	○ (•)	•	•
V4	•	•	•	•	•
V5	•	•	○	○ (•)	•
V6	•	•	•	•	•
V7	•	○	•	○/• Alternates with V23	○
V8	•	•	•	•	•

Phase	Blood Prime 1	Blood Prime 2	Blood Separation While Drawing Whole Blood (Without Drawing Whole Blood)	Return Red Blood Cells / Saline with Separation (Without Separation)	Fill Donor Line
V9	●	○/● Pump In	○/● Pump In	○/● Pump In (●)	●
V10	●	●	○/● Pump Out	○/● Pump Out (●)	●
V11	○/● Pump Out	○	○/● Pump Out (●)	○/● Pump In	○/● Pump In
V12	●	●	○/● Pump In	○/● Pump In (●)	●
V13	○/● Pump In	○	○/● Pump In (●)	○/● Pump Out	○/● Pump Out
V14	●	○/● Pump Out	○/● Pump Out	○/● Pump Out (●)	●
V15	○/● Pump Out	●	○/● Pump Out (●)	●	●
V16	●	●	●	●	●
V17	●	●	●	●	●
V18	○	○	○ (●)	○	○
V19	○	●	○ (●)	●	●
V20	○/● Pump Out	●	○/● Pump In (●)	●	●
V21	●	●	●	●	●
V22	●	●	●	○	●
V23	●	●	●	○/● Alternates with V7	●
PP1	■	□	□	□ (■)	■

5

10

15

Phase	Blood Prime 1	Blood Prime 2	Blood Separation While Drawing Whole Blood (Without Drawing Whole Blood)	Return Red Blood Cells / Saline with Separation (Without Separation)	Fill Donor Line
PP2	■	■	□	□ (■)	■
PP3	□	■	□ (■)	□	□
PP4	□	■	□ (■)	■	■

5 Caption: ○ denotes an open valve; ● denotes a closed valve;
○/● denotes a valve opening and closing during a pumping
sequence; ■ denotes an idle pump station (not in use); and
□ denotes a pump station in use.

d. The Post-Collection Cycle

10 Once the targeted maximum volumes of plasma and red
blood cells have been collected (as monitored by the weigh
sensor), the circuit is programmed to carry out the phases
of the post-collection cycle.

i. Return Excess Plasma

15 If the volume of plasma collected in the plasma
collection container 304 is over the targeted volume, a
phase of the post-collection cycle (Excess Plasma Return) is
entered, during which the circuit is programmed to terminate
the supply and removal of blood to and from the processing
20 chamber, while operating the donor interface pump station
PP3 (i.e., in through valve V11 and out through valve V13)
to convey plasma in the plasma container 304 to the donor.
The circuit is also programmed in this phase to mix saline
from the container 288 in line with the returned plasma.
25 This phase continues until the volume of plasma in the
plasma collection container 304 is at the targeted value, as
monitored by the weigh sensor.

ii. Return Excess Red Blood Cells

If the volume of red blood cells collected in the red blood cell collection container 308 is also over the targeted volume, a phase of the post-collection cycle (Excess RBC Return) is entered, during which the circuit is programmed to operate the donor interface pump station PP3 (i.e., in through valve V11 and out through valve V13) to convey red blood cells remaining in the red blood cell collection container 308 to the donor. The circuit is also programmed in this phase to mix saline from the container 288 in line with the returned red blood cells. This phase continues until the volume of red blood cells in the container 308 equals the targeted value, as monitored by the weigh sensor.

iii. Saline Purge

When the volumes of red blood cells and plasma collected in the containers 308 and 304 equal the targeted values, the next phase of the post-collection cycle (Saline Purge) is entered, during which the circuit is programmed to operate the donor interface pump station PP3 (i.e., in through valve V11 and out through valve V11) to convey saline from the container 288 through the separation device, to displace the blood contents of the separation device into the in-process container 312, in preparation for their return to the donor. This phase reduces the loss of donor blood. This phase continues until a predetermined volume of saline is pumped through the separation device, as monitored by the weigh sensor.

iv. Final Return to Donor

In the next phase of the post-collection cycle (Final Return), the circuit is programmed to operate the donor interface pump station PP3 (i.e., in through valve V11 and out through valve V13) to convey the blood contents of the in-process container 312 to the donor. Saline is intermittently mixed with the blood contents. This phase

continues until the in-process container 312 is empty, as monitored by the weigh sensor.

In the next phase (Fluid Replacement), the circuit is programmed to operate the donor interface pump station PP3 (i.e., in through valve V11 and out through valve V13) to convey the saline to the donor. This phase continues until a prescribed replacement volume amount is infused, as monitored by the weigh sensor.

In the next phase (End Venipuncture), the circuit is programmed to close all valves and idle all pump stations, so that venipuncture can be terminated.

The programming of the circuit during the phases of the post-collection cycle is summarized in the following table.

TABLE
Programming of Blood Processing Circuit During The Post-Collection Cycle
(Red Blood Cell / Plasma Collection Procedure)

Phase	Excess Plasma Return	Excess RBC Return	Saline Purge	Final Return	Fluid Replacement	End Venipuncture
V1	•	•	•	○	•	•
V2	•	○	•	•	•	•
V3	•	•	•	•	•	•
V4	•	•	○	•	•	•
V5	○	•	•	•	•	•
V6	○/• Alternates with V23	•	•	•	•	•
V7	•	○/• Alternates with V23	•	○/• Alternates with V23	•	•
V8	•	•	•	•	•	•
V9	○	○	○	•	•	•
V10	•	•	•	•	•	•

Phase	Excess Plasma Return	Excess RBC Return	Saline Purge	Final Return	Fluid Replacement	End Venipuncture
V11	o/• Pump In	o/• Pump In	o/• Pump In/ Pump Out	o/• Pump In	o/• Pump In	•
V12	•	•	•	•	•	•
V13	o/• Pump Out	o/• Pump Out	•	o/• Pump Out	o/• Pump Out	•
V14	•	•	o	•	•	•
V15	•	•	•	•	•	•
V16	•	•	•	•	•	•
V17	•	•	•	•	•	•
V18	o		•	o	o	•
V19	•	•	•	•	•	•
V20	•	•	•	•	•	•
V21	•	•	•	•	•	•
V22	o	o	o	o	o	•
V23	o/• Alternates with V6	o/• Alternates with V6	o	o/• Alternates with V7	o	•
PP1	■	■	■	■	■	■
PP2	■	■	■	■	■	■
PP3	□	□	□	□	□	■
PP4	■	■	■	■	■	■

Caption: o denotes an open valve; • denotes a closed valve; o/• denotes a valve opening and closing during a pumping sequence; ■ denotes an idle pump station (not in use); and □ denotes a pump station in use.

e. The Storage Preparation Cycle

i. RBC Preservative Prime

In the first phase of the storage preparation cycle (Prime Storage Solution), the circuit is programmed to operate the donor interface pump station PP3 to transfer a desired volume of red blood cell storage solution from the container 280 into the in-process container 312. The transfer of the desired volume is monitored by the weigh scale.

In the next phase (Transfer Storage Solution), the circuit is programmed to operate the donor interface pump station PP3 to transfer a desired volume of red blood cell storage solution from the in-process container 312 into the red blood cell collection container 308. The transfer of the desired volume is monitored by the weigh scale.

In the next and final phase (End Procedure), the circuit is programmed to close all valves and idle all pump stations, so that the plasma and red blood cell storage containers 304 and 308 can be separated and removed for storage. The remainder of the disposable set can now be removed and discarded.

The programming of the circuit during the phases of the storage preparation cycle is summarized in the following table.

TABLE
Programming of Blood Processing Circuit During The Storage Preparation Cycle
(Red Blood Cell / Plasma Collection Procedure)

Phase	Prime Storage Solution	Transfer Storage Solution	End Procedure
V1	•	•	•
V2	•	○	•
V3	○	•	•
V4	•	○	•
V5	•	•	•
V6	•	•	•

Phase	Prime Storage Solution	Transfer Storage Solution	End Procedure
V7	•	•	•
V8	•	•	•
V9	•	•	•
V10	•	•	•
V11	o/• Pump In/ Pump Out	o/• Pump In/ Pump Out	•
V12	•	•	•
V13	•	•	•
V14	•	•	•
V15	•	•	•
V16	o	o	•
V17	•	•	•
V18	•	•	•
V19	•	•	•
V20	•	•	•
V21	o	o	•
V22	•	•	•
V23	•	•	•
PP1	■	■	■
PP2	■	■	■
PP3	□	□	■
PP4	■	■	■

Caption: o denotes an open valve; • denotes a closed valve; o/• denotes a valve opening and closing during a pumping sequence; ■ denotes an idle pump station (not in use); and □ denotes a pump station in use.

V. Interface Control

A. Underspill and Overspill Detection

In any of the above-described procedures, the centrifugal forces present within the processing chamber 18 separate whole blood into a region of packed red blood cells

and a region of plasma (see Fig. 15A). The centrifugal forces cause the region of packed red blood cells to congregate along the outside or high-G wall of the chamber, while the region of plasma is transported to the inside or low-G wall of the chamber.

An intermediate region forms an interface between the red blood cell region and the plasma region. Intermediate density cellular blood species like platelets and leukocytes populate the interface, arranged according to density, with the platelets closer to the plasma layer than the leukocytes. The interface is also called the "buffy coat," because of its cloudy color, compared to the straw color of the plasma region and the red color of the red blood cell region.

It is desirable to monitor the location of the buffy coat, either to keep the buffy coat materials out of the plasma or out of the red blood cells, depending on the procedure, or to collect the cellular contents of the buffy coat. The system includes a sensing station 332 comprising two optical sensors 334 and 336 for this purpose.

In the illustrated and preferred embodiment (see Fig. 13), the sensing station 332 is located a short distance outside the centrifuge station 20. This arrangement minimizes the fluid volume of components leaving the chamber before monitoring by the sensing station 332.

The first sensor 334 in the station 332 optically monitors the passage of blood components through the plasma collection tube 292. The second sensor 336 in the station 332 optically monitors the passage of blood components through the red blood cell collection tube 294.

The tubes 292 and 294 are made from plastic (e.g. polyvinylchloride) material that is transparent to the optical energy used for sensing, at least in the region where the tubes 292 and 294 are to be placed into association with the sensing station 332.

In the illustrated embodiment, the set 264 includes a fixture 338 (see Figs. 16 to 18) to hold the tubes 292 and 294 in viewing alignment with its respective sensor 334 and 336. The fixture 338 gathers the tubes 292 and 294 in a compact, organized, side-by-side array, to be placed and removed as a group in association with the sensors 334 and 336, which are also arranged in a compact, side-by-side relationship within the station 332.

In the illustrated embodiment, the fixture 338 also holds the tube 290, which conveys whole blood into the centrifuge station 20, even though no associated sensor is provided. The fixture 338 serves to gather and hold all tubes 290, 292, and 294 that are coupled to the umbilicus 296 in a compact and easily handled bundle.

The fixture 338 can be an integral part of the umbilicus 296, formed, e.g., by over molding. Alternatively, the fixture 338 can be a separately fabricated part, which snap fits about the tubes 290, 292, and 294 for use.

In the illustrated embodiment (as Fig. 2 shows), the containers 304, 308, and 312 coupled to the cassette 28 are suspended during use above the centrifugation station 20. In this arrangement, the fixture 338 directs the tubes 290, 292, and 294 through an abrupt, ninety degree bend immediately beyond the end of the umbilicus 296 to the cassette 28. The bend imposed by the fixture 338 directs the tubes 290, 292, and 294 in tandem away from the area immediately beneath the containers 304, 308, and 312, thereby preventing clutter in this area. The presence of the fixture 338 to support and guide the tubes 290, 292, and 294 through the bend also reduces the risk of kinking or entanglement.

The first sensor 334 is capable of detecting the presence of optically targeted cellular species or components in the plasma collection tube 292. The

components that are optically targeted for detection vary depending upon the procedure.

For a plasma collection procedure, the first sensor 334 detects the presence of platelets in the plasma collection tube 292, so that control measures can be initiated to move the interface between the plasma and platelet cell layer back into the processing chamber. This provides a plasma product that can be essentially platelet-free or at least in which the number of platelets is minimized.

For a red blood cell-only collection procedure, the first sensor 334 detects the interface between the buffy coat and the red blood cell layer, so that control measures can be initiated to move this interface back into the processing chamber. This maximizes the red blood cell yield.

For a buffy coat collection procedure (which will be described later), the first sensor 334 detects when the leading edge of the buffy coat (i.e., the plasma/platelet interface) begins to exit the processing chamber, as well as detects when the trailing edge of the buffy coat (i.e., the buffy coat / red blood cell interface) has completely exited the processing chamber.

The presence of these cellular components in the plasma, as detected by the first sensor 334, indicates that the interface is close enough to the low-G wall of the processing chamber to allow all or some of these components to be swept into the plasma collection line (see Fig. 15B). This condition will also be called an "over spill."

The second sensor 336 is capable of detecting the hematocrit of the red blood cells in the red blood cell collection tube 294. The decrease of red blood hematocrit below a set minimum level during processing that the interface is close enough to the high-G wall of the processing chamber to allow plasma to enter the red blood cell collection tube 294 (see Fig. 15C). This condition will

also be called an "under spill."

B. The Sensing Circuit

The sensing station 332 includes a sensing circuit 340 (see Fig. 19), of which the first sensor 334 and second sensor 336 form a part.

The first sensor 334 includes one green light emitting diode (LED) 350, one red LED 352, and two photodiodes 354 and 355. The photodiode 354 measures transmitted light, and the photodiode 355 measures reflected light.

The second sensor 336 includes one red LED 356 and two photodiodes 358 and 360. The photodiode 358 measures transmitted light, and the photodiode 360 measures reflected light.

The sensing circuit 340 further includes an LED driver component 342. The driver component 342 includes a constant current source 344, coupled to the LED's 350, 352, and 356 of the sensors 334 and 336. The constant current source 344 supplies a constant current to each LED 350, 352, and 356, independent of temperature and the power supply voltage levels. The constant current source 344 thereby provides a constant output intensity for each LED 350, 352, and 356.

The LED drive component 342 includes a modulator 346. The modulator 346 modulates the constant current at a prescribed frequency. The modulation 346 removes the effects of ambient light and electromagnetic interference (EMI) from the optically sensed reading, as will be described in greater detail later.

The sensing circuit 340 also includes a receiver circuit 348 coupled to the photodiodes 354, 355, 358, and 360. The receiver circuit 348 includes, for each photodiode 354, 355, 358, and 360, a dedicated current-to-voltage (I-V) converter 362. The remainder of the receiver circuit 348 includes a bandpass filter 364, a programmable amplifier 366, and a full wave rectifier 368. These components 364, 366, and 368 are shared, e.g., using a multiplexer.

Ambient light typically contains frequency components less than 1000 Hz, and EMI typically contains frequency components above 2 KHz. With this in mind, the modulator 346 modulates the current at a frequency below the EMI frequency components, e.g., at about 2 KHz. The bandpass filter 364 has a center frequency of about the same value, i.e., about 2 KHz. The sensor circuit 340 eliminates frequency components above and below the ambient light source and EMI components from the sensed measurement. In this way, the sensing circuit 340 is not sensitive to ambient lighting conditions and EMI.

More particularly, transmitted or reflected light from the tube 292 or 294 containing the fluid to be measured is incident on photodiodes 354 and 355 (for the tube 292) or photodiodes 358 and 360 (for tube 294). Each photodiode produces a photocurrent proportional to the received light intensity. This current is converted to a voltage. The voltage is fed, via the multiplexer 370, to the bandpass filter 364. The bandpass filter 364 has a center frequency at the carrier frequency of the modulated source light (i.e., 2 KHz in the illustrated embodiment).

The sinusoidal output of the bandpass filter 364 is sent to the variable gain amplifier 366. The gain of the amplifier is preprogrammed in preestablished steps, e.g., X1, X10, X100, and X1000. This provides the amplifier with the capability to respond to a large dynamic range.

The sinusoidal output of the amplifier 366 is sent to the full wave rectifier 368, which transforms the sinusoidal output to a DC output voltage proportional to the transmitted light energy.

The controller 16 generates timing pulses for the sensor circuit 340. The timing pulses comprise, for each LED, (i) a modulation square wave at the desired modulation frequency (i.e., 2KHz in the illustrated embodiment), (ii) an enable signal, (iii) two sensor select bits (which select

the sensor output to feed to the bandpass filter 364), and
(iv) two bits for the receiver circuit gain selection (for
the amplifier 366).

5 The controller 16 conditions the driver circuit 342 to
operate each LED in an ON state and an OFF state.

In the ON state, the LED enable is set HIGH, and the
LED is illuminated for a set time interval, e.g., 100 ms.
During the first 83.3 ms of the ON state, the finite rise
time for the incident photodiode and receiver circuit 348
10 are allowed to stabilize. During the final 16.7 ms of the
ON state, the output of the circuit 340 is sampled at twice
the modulation rate (i.e., 4 Khz in the illustrated
embodiment). The sampling interval is selected to comprises
one complete cycle of 60 Hz, allowing the main frequency to
15 be filtered from the measurement. The 4 Khz sampling
frequency allows the 2 Khz ripple to be captured for later
removal from the measurement.

During the OFF state, the LED is left dark for 100 ms.
The LED baseline due to ambient light and electromagnetic
20 interference is recorded during the final 16.7 ms.

1. The First Sensor: Platelet / RBC Differentiation

In general, cell free ("free") plasma has a straw
color. As the concentration of platelets in the plasma
25 increases, the clarity of the plasma decreases. The plasma
looks "cloudy." As the concentration of red blood cells in
the plasma increases, the plasma color turns from straw to
red.

The sensor circuit 340 includes a detection /
30 differentiation module 372, which analyses sensed
attenuations of light at two different wavelengths from the
first sensor 334 (using the transmitted light sensing
photodiode 354). The different wavelengths are selected to
possess generally the same optical attenuation for
35 platelets, but significantly different optical attentuations

for red blood cells.

In the illustrated embodiment, the first sensor 334 includes an emitter 350 of light at a first wavelength (λ_1), which, in the illustrated embodiment, is green light (570 nm and 571 nm). The first sensor 334 also includes an emitter 352 of light at a second wavelength (λ_2), which, in the illustrated embodiment, is red light (645 nm to 660 nm).

The optical attenuation for platelets at the first wavelength ($\epsilon_{\text{platelets}}^{\lambda_1}$) and the optical attenuation for platelets at the second wavelength ($\epsilon_{\text{platelets}}^{\lambda_2}$) are generally the same. Thus, changes in attenuation over time, as affected by increases or decreases in platelet concentration, will be similar.

However, the optical attenuation for hemoglobin at the first wavelength ($\epsilon_{\text{Hb}}^{\lambda_1}$) is about ten times greater than the optical attenuation for hemoglobin at the second wavelength ($\epsilon_{\text{Hb}}^{\lambda_2}$). Thus, changes in attenuation over time, as affected by the presence of red blood cells, will not be similar.

The tube 294, through which plasma to be sensed, is transparent to light at the first and second wavelengths. The tube 294 conveys the plasma flow past the first and second emitters 350 and 352.

The light detector 354 receives light emitted by the first and second emitters 350 and 352 through the tube 294. The detector 354 generates signals proportional to intensities of received light. The intensities vary with optical attenuation caused by the presence of platelets and/or red blood cells.

The module 372 is coupled to the light detector 354 to analyze the signals to derive intensities of the received light at the first and second wavelengths. The module 372 compares changes of the intensities of the first and second wavelengths over time. When the intensities of the first and second wavelengths change over time in substantially the same manner, the module 372 generates an output representing

presence of platelets in the plasma flow. When the intensities of the first and second wavelengths change over time in a substantially different manner, the module 372 generates an output representing presence of red blood cells in the plasma flow. The outputs therefore differentiate between changes in intensity attributable to changes in platelet concentration in the plasma flow and changes in intensity attributable to changes in red blood cell concentration in the plasma flow.

There are various ways to implement the module 372. In a preferred embodiment, the detection / differentiation module 372 considers that the attenuation of a beam of monochromatic light of wavelength λ by a plasma solution can be described by the modified Lambert-Beer law, as follows:

$$I = I_0 e^{-[(\epsilon_{Hb}^{\lambda} c_{Hb} H + \epsilon_{platelets}^{\lambda} c_{platelets})d + G_{platelets}^{\lambda} + G_{RBC}^{\lambda}] (1)}$$

where:

I is transmitted light intensity.

I_0 is incident light intensity.

ϵ_{Hb}^{λ} is the optical attenuation of hemoglobin (Hb) (gm/dl) at the applied wavelength.

$\epsilon_{platelets}^{\lambda}$ is the optical attenuation of platelets at the applied wavelength.

c_{Hb} is the concentration of hemoglobin in a red blood cell, taken to be 34 gm/dl.

$c_{platelets}$ is the concentration of platelets in the sample.

d is thickness of the plasma stream through the tube

294.

G^{λ} is the path length factor at the applied wavelength, which accounts for additional photon path length in the plasma sample due to light scattering.

H is whole blood hematocrit, which is percentage of red blood cells in the sample.

G_{RBC}^{λ} and $G_{platelets}^{\lambda}$ are a function of the concentration and scattering coefficients of, respectively, red blood

cells and platelets at the applied wavelengths, as well as the measurement geometry.

For wavelengths in the visible and near infrared spectrum, $\varepsilon_{\text{platelets}}^{\lambda} \approx 0$, therefore:

$$5 \quad \quad \quad \ln\left(\frac{I^{\lambda}}{I_0^{\lambda}}\right) = \ln(T^{\lambda}) \approx -[(\varepsilon_{Hb}^{\lambda} C_{Hb} H)d + G_{\text{platelets}}^{\lambda} + G_{RBC}^{\lambda}] \quad (2)$$

In an over spill condition (shown in Fig. 15B), the first cellular component to be detected by the first sensor 334 in the plasma collection line 294 will be platelets. Therefore, for the detection of platelets, $\ln(T^{\lambda}) \approx G_{\text{platelets}}^{\lambda}$.

10 To detect the buffy coat interface between the platelet layer and the red blood cell layer, the two wavelengths (λ_1 and λ_2) are chosen based upon the criteria that (i) λ_1 and λ_2 have approximately the same path length factor (G^{λ}), and (ii) one wavelength λ_1 or λ_2 has a much greater optical
15 attenuation for hemoglobin than the other wavelength.

Assuming the wavelengths λ_1 and λ_2 have the same G^{λ} , Equation (2) reduces to:

$$\ln(T^{\lambda_1}) - \ln(T^{\lambda_2}) \approx Hdc_{Hb}(\varepsilon_{Hb}^{\lambda_2} - \varepsilon_{Hb}^{\lambda_1}) \quad (3)$$

In the preferred embodiment, $\lambda_1 = 660$ nm (green) and λ_2
20 $= 571$ nm (red). The path length factor (G^{λ}) for 571 nm light is greater than for 660 nm light. Therefore the path length factors have to be modified by coefficients α and β , as follows: :

$$G_{RBC}^{\lambda_1} = \alpha G_{RBC}^{\lambda_2}$$

$$G_{\text{platelets}}^{\lambda_1} = \beta G_{\text{platelets}}^{\lambda_2}$$

25 Therefore, Equation (3) can be reexpressed as follows:

$$\ln(T^{\lambda_1}) - \ln(T^{\lambda_2}) \approx Hdc_{Hb}(\varepsilon_{Hb}^{\lambda_2} - \varepsilon_{Hb}^{\lambda_1}) + (\alpha - 1)G_{RBC}^{\lambda_1} + (\beta - 1)G_{\text{platelets}}^{\lambda_1} \quad (4)$$

In the absence of red blood cells, Equation (3) causes a false red blood cell detect with increasing platelet concentrations, as Equation (5) demonstrates:

$$\ln(T^{\lambda_1}) - \ln(T^{\lambda_2}) = (\beta - 1)G_{platelets}^{\lambda_1} \quad (5)$$

For the detection of platelets and the interface between the platelet / red blood cell layer, Equation (4) provides a better resolution. The module 372 therefore applies Equation (4). The coefficient $(\beta - 1)$ can be determined by empirically measuring $G_{platelets}^{\lambda_1}$ and $G_{platelets}^{\lambda_2}$ in the desired measurement geometry for different known concentrations of platelets in prepared platelet-spiked plasma.

The detection / differentiation module 372 also differentiates between intensity changes due to the presence of red blood cells in the plasma or the presence of free hemoglobin in the plasma due to hemolysis. Both circumstances will cause a decrease in the output of the transmitted light sensing photodiode 354. However, the output of the reflected light sensing photodiode 355 increases in the presence of red blood cells and decreases in the presence of free hemoglobin. The detection / differentiation module 372 thus senses the undesired occurrence of hemolysis during blood processing, so that the operator can be alerted and corrective action can be taken.

2. The Second Sensor: Packed Red Blood Cell Measurement

In an under spill condition (shown in Fig. 15C), the hematocrit of red blood cells exiting the processing chamber 18 will dramatically decrease, e.g., from a targeted hematocrit of about 80 to a hematocrit of about 50, as plasma (and the buffy coat) mixes with the red blood cells. An under spill condition is desirable during a plasma collection procedure, as it allows the return of the buffy coat to the donor with the red blood cells. An under spill condition is not desired during a red blood cell-only collection procedure, as it jeopardizes the yield and

quality of red blood cells that are collected for storage.

In either situation, the ability to sense when an under spill condition exists is desireable.

Photon wavelengths in the near infrared spectrum (NIR)
5 (approximately 540 nm to 1000 nm) are suitable for sensing red blood cells, as their intensity can be measured after transmission through many millimeters of blood.

The sensor circuit 340 includes a red blood cell detection module 374. The detection module 374 analyses
10 sensed optical transmissions of the second sensor 336 to discern the hematocrit and changes in the hematocrit of red blood cells exiting the processing chamber 18.

The detection module 374 considers that the attenuation of a beam of monochromatic light of wavelength λ by blood
15 may be described by the modified Lambert-Beer law, as follows:

$$I = I_0 e^{-[(\epsilon_{Hb}^{\lambda} c_{Hb} H)d + G_{RBC}^{\lambda}]} \quad (6)$$

where:

I is transmitted light intensity.

20 I_0 is incident light intensity.

ϵ_{Hb}^{λ} is the extinction coefficient of hemoglobin (Hb) (gm/dl) at the applied wavelength.

c_{Hb} is the concentration of hemoglobin in a red blood cell, taken to be 34 gm/dl.

25 d is the distance between the light source and light detector.

G^{λ} is the path length factor at the applied wavelength, which accounts for additional photon path length in the media due to light scattering.

30 H is whole blood hematocrit, which is percentage of red blood cells in the sample.

G_{RBC}^{λ} is a function of the hematocrit and scattering coefficients of red blood cells at the applied wavelengths, as well as the measurement geometry.

Given Equation (6), the optical density O.D. of the sample can be expressed as follows:

$$Ln(\frac{I_{\lambda}^{\lambda}}{I_0^{\lambda}}) = O.D. \approx -[(\epsilon_{Hb}^{\lambda} C_{Hb} H)d + G_{RBC}^{\lambda}] \quad (7)$$

The optical density of the sample can further be expressed as follows:

$$O.D. = O.D._{Absorption} + O.D._{Scattering} \quad (8)$$

where:

O.D._{Absorption} is the optical density due to absorption by red blood cells, expressed as follows:

$$O.D._{Absorption} = -(\epsilon_{Hb}^{\lambda} C_{Hb} H)d \quad (9)$$

O.D._{Scattering} is the optical density due to scattering of red blood cells, expressed as follows:

$$O.D._{Scattering} = G_{RBC}^{\lambda} \quad (10)$$

From Equation (9), O.D._{Absorption} increases linearly with hematocrit (H). For transmittance measurements in the red and NIR spectrum, G_{RBC}^{λ} is generally parabolic, reaching a maximum at a hematocrit of between 50 and 75 (depending on illumination wavelength and measurement geometry) and is zero at hematocrits of 0 and 100 (see, e.g., Steinke et al., "Diffusion Model of the Optical Absorbance of Whole Blood," *J. Opt. Soc. Am.*, Vol 5, No. 6, June 1988). Therefore, for light transmission measurements, the measured optical density is a nonlinear function of hematocrit.

Nevertheless, it has been discovered that G_{RBC}^{λ} for reflected light measured at a predetermined radial distance from the incident light source is observed to remain linear for the hematocrit range of at least 10 to 90. Thus, with the second sensor 336 so configured, the detection module

can treat the optical density of the sample for the reflected light to be a linear function of hematocrit. The same relationship exists for the first sensor 334 with respect to the detection of red blood cells in plasma.

5 This arrangement relies upon maintaining straightforward measurement geometries. No mirrors or focusing lenses are required. The LED or photodiode need not be positioned at an exact angle with respect to the blood flow tube. No special optical cuvettes are required.
10 The second sensor 336 can interface directly with the transparent plastic tubing 294. Similarly, the first sensor 334 can interface directly with the transparent tubing 292.

 In the illustrated embodiment, the wavelength 805 nm is selected, as it is an isobestic wavelength for red blood
15 cells, meaning that light absorption by the red blood cells at this wavelength is independent of oxygen saturation. Still, other wavelengths can be selected within the NIR spectrum.

 In the illustrated embodiment, for a wavelength of 805
20 nm, the preferred set distance is 7.5 mm from the light source. The fixture 338, above described (see Fig. 18), facilitates the placement of the tube 294 in the desired relation to the light source and the reflected light detector of the second sensor 336. The fixture 338 also
25 facilitates the placement of the tube 292 in the desired relation to the light source and the reflected light detector of the first sensor 334.

 Measurements at a distance greater than 7.5 mm can be made and will show a greater sensitivity to changes in the
30 red blood cell hematocrit. However a lower signal to noise ratio will be encountered at these greater distances. Likewise, measurements at a distance closer to the light source will show a greater signal to noise ratio, but will be less sensitive to changes in the red blood cell
35 hematocrit. The optimal distance for a given wavelength in

which a linear relationship between hematocrit and sensed intensity exists for a given hematocrit range can be empirically determined.

5 The second sensor 336 detects absolute differences in
the mean transmitted light intensity of the signal
transmitted through the red blood cells in the red blood
cell collection line. The detection module analyzes these
measured absolute differences in intensities, along with
10 increases in the standard deviation of the measured
intensities, to reliably signal an under spill condition, as
Fig. 20 shows.

At a given absolute hematocrit, G_{RBC}^{λ} varies slightly
from donor to donor, due to variations in the mean red blood
cell volume and/or the refractive index difference between
15 the plasma and red blood cells. Still, by measuring the
reflected light from a sample of a given donor's blood
having a known hematocrit, G_{RBC}^{λ} may be calibrated to yield,
for that donor, an absolute measurement of the hematocrit of
red blood cells exiting the processing chamber.

20 **C. Pre-Processing Calibration of the Sensors**

The first and second sensors 334 and 336 are calibrated
during the saline and blood prime phases of a given blood
collection procedure, the details of which have already
described.

25 During the saline prime stage, saline is conveyed into
the blood processing chamber 18 and out through the plasma
collection line 292. During this time, the blood processing
chamber 18 is rotated in cycles between 0 RPM and 200 RPM,
until air is purged from the chamber 18. The speed of
30 rotation of the processing chamber 18 is then increased to
full operational speed.

The blood prime stage follows, during which whole blood
is introduced into the processing chamber 18 at the desired
whole blood flow rate (Q_{WB}). The flow rate of plasma from
35 the processing chamber through the plasma collection line

292 is set at a fraction (e.g., 80%) of the desired plasma flow rate (Q_p) from the processing chamber 18, to purge saline from the chamber 18. The purge of saline continues under these conditions until the first sensor 334 optically senses the presence of saline in the plasma collection line 292.

1. For Plasma Collection Procedures (Induced Under Spill)

If the procedure to be performed collects plasma for storage (e.g., the Plasma Collection Procedure or the Red Blood Cell / Plasma Collection Procedure), an under spill condition is induced during calibration. The under spill condition is created by decreasing or stopping the flow of plasma through the plasma collection line 292. This forces the buffy coat away from the low-G side of the chamber 18 (as Fig. 15C) to assure that a flow of "clean" plasma exists in the plasma collection line 292, free or essentially free of platelets and leukocytes. The induced under spill allows the first sensor 334 to be calibrated and normalized with respect to the physiologic color of the donor's plasma, taking into account the donor's background lipid level, but without the presence of platelets or leukocytes. The first sensor 334 thereby possesses maximum sensitivity to changes brought about by the presence of platelets or leukocytes in the buffy coat, should an over spill subsequently occur during processing.

Forcing an under spill condition also positions the interface close to the high-G wall at the outset of blood processing. This creates an initial offset condition on the high-G side of the chamber, to prolong the ultimate development of an over spill condition as blood processing proceeds.

2. Red Blood Cell Collection Procedures

If a procedure is to be performed in which no plasma is to be collected (e.g., the Double Unit Red Blood Cell

Collection Procedure), an under spill condition is not induced during the blood purge phase. This is because, in a red blood cell only collection procedure, the first sensor 334 need only detect, during an over spill, the presence of red blood cells in the plasma. The first sensor 334 does not need to be further sensitized to detect platelets. Furthermore, in a red blood cell only collection procedure, it may be desirable to keep the interface as near the low-G wall as possible. The desired condition allows the buffy coat to be returned to the donor with the plasma and maximizes the hematocrit of the red blood cells collected.

D. Blood Cell Collection

1. Plasma Collection Procedures

In procedures where plasma is collected (e.g., the Plasma Collection Procedure or the Red Blood Cell / Plasma Collection Procedure), Q_p is set at $Q_{P(Ideal)}$, which is an empirically determined plasma flow rate that allows the system to maintain a steady state collection condition, with no underspills and no overspills.

$Q_{P(Ideal)}$ (in grams/ml) is a function of the anticoagulated whole blood inlet flow rate Q_{WB} , the anticoagulant whole blood inlet hematocrit HCT_{WB} , and the red blood cell exit hematocrit HCT_{RBC} (as estimated or measured), expressed as follows:

$$Q_{P(Ideal)} = (\rho_{Plasma} Q_{WB}) * \frac{(1 - HCT_{WB}) - [\frac{\rho_{WB}}{\rho_{RBC}} (1 - HCT_{RBC})]}{(1 - \frac{\rho_{Plasma}}{\rho_{RBC}})(1 - HCT_{RBC})}$$

where:

ρ_{Plasma} is the density of plasma (in g/ml) = 1.03

ρ_{WB} is the density of whole blood (in g/ml) = 1.05

ρ_{RBC} is the density of red blood cells = 1.08

Q_{WB} is set to the desired whole blood inlet flow rate for plasma collection, which, for a plasma only collection procedure, is generally about 70 ml/min. For a red blood cell / plasma collection procedure, Q_{WB} is set at about 50 ml/min, thereby providing packed red blood cells with a

higher hematocrit than in a traditional plasma collection procedure.

5 The system controller 16 maintains the pump settings until the desired plasma collection volume is achieved, unless an under spill condition or an over spill condition is detected.

10 If set Q_p is too high for the actual blood separation conditions, or, if due to the physiology of the donor, the buffy coat volume is larger (i.e., "thicker") than expected, the first sensor 334 will detect the presence of platelets or leukocytes, or both in the plasma, indicating an over spill condition.

15 In response to an over spill condition caused by a high Q_p , the system controller 16 terminates operation of the plasma collection pump PP2, while keeping set Q_{WB} unchanged. In response to an over spill condition caused by a high volume buffy coat, the system controller 16 terminates operation of the plasma collection pump PP2, until an under spill condition is detected by the red blood cell sensor 336.
20 This serves to expel the buffy coat layer from the separation chamber through the red blood cell tube 294.

25 To carry out the over spill response, the blood processing circuit 46 is programmed to operate the in-process pump PP1 (i.e., drawing in through the valve V9 and expelling out of the valve V14), to draw whole blood from the in-process container 312 into the processing chamber 18 at the set Q_{WB} . Red blood cells exit the chamber 18 through the tube 294 for collection in the collection container 308. The flow rate of red blood cells directly depends upon the magnitude
30 of Q_{WB} .

35 During this time, the blood processing circuit 46 is also programmed to cease operation of the plasma pump PP2 for a preestablished time period (e.g., 20 seconds). This forces the interface back toward the middle of the separation chamber. After the preestablished time period, the operation

of the plasma pump PP2 is resumed, but at a low flow rate (e.g., 10 ml/min) for a short time period (e.g., 10 seconds). If the spill has been corrected, clean plasma will be detected by the first sensor 334, and normal operation of the blood processing circuit 46 is resumed. If clean plasma is not sensed, indicating that the over spill has not been corrected, the blood processing circuit 46 repeats the above-described sequence.

The programming of the circuit to relieve an over spill condition is summarized in the following table.

TABLE
Programming of Blood Processing Circuit To Relive an Over
Spill Condition
(Plasma Collection Procedures)

V1	•
V2	○
V3	•
V4	•
V5	○
V6	•
V7	•
V8	•
V9	•/○ Pump In
V10	•
V11	•
V12	•
V13	•
V14	•/○ Pump Out
V15	•
V16	•
V17	•
V18	•
V19	•

V20	•
V21	•
V22	•
V23	•
PP1	□
PP2	■
PP3	■
PP4	■

Caption: ○ denotes an open valve; ● denotes a closed valve; ○/● denotes a valve opening and closing during a pumping sequence; ■ denotes an idle pump station (not in use); and □ denotes a pump station in use.

Upon correction of an over spill condition, the controller 16 returns the blood processing circuit 46 to resume normal blood processing, but applies a percent reduction factor (%RF) to the Q_p set at the time the over spill condition was initially sensed. The reduction factor (%RF) is a function of the time between over spills, i.e., %RF increases as the frequency of over spills increases, and vice versa.

If set Q_p is too low, the second sensor 336 will detect a decrease in the red blood cell hematocrit below a set level, which indicates an under spill condition.

In response to an under spill condition, the system controller 16 resets Q_p close to the set Q_{wb} . As processing continues, the interface will, in time, move back toward the low-G wall. The controller 16 maintains these settings until the second sensor 336 detects a red blood cell hematocrit above the desired set level. At this time, the controller 16 applies a percent enlargement factor (%EF) to the Q_p set at the time the under spill condition was initially sensed. The enlargement factor (%EF) is a function of the time between under spills, i.e., %EF increases as the frequency of under

spills increases.

Should the controller 16 be unable to correct a given under or over spill condition after multiple attempts (e.g., three attempts), an alarm is commanded.

5 **2. Red Blood Cell Only Collection Procedures**

In procedures where only red blood cells and no plasma is collected (e.g., the Double Unit Red Blood Cell Collection Procedure), Q_p is set to no greater than $Q_{P(Ideal)}$, and Q_{WB} is set to the desired whole blood inlet flow rate into the processing chamber 18 for the procedure, which is generally about 50 ml/min for a double unit red blood cell collection procedure.

It may be desired during a double unit red blood cell collection procedure that over spills occur frequently. This maximizes the hematocrit of the red blood cells for collection and returns the buffy coat to the donor with the plasma. Q_p is increased over time if over spills occur at less than a set frequency. Likewise, Q_p is decreased over time if over spills occur above the set frequency. However, to avoid an undesirably high hematocrit, it may be just as desirable to operate at $Q_{P(Ideal)}$.

The system controller 16 controls the pump settings in this way until the desired red blood cell collection volume is achieved, taking care of under spills or over spills as they occur.

The first sensor 334 detects an over spill by the presence of red blood cells in the plasma. In response to an over spill condition, the system controller 16 terminates operation of the plasma collection pump to draw plasma from the processing chamber, while keeping the set Q_{WB} unchanged.

To implement the over spill response, the blood processing circuit 46 is programmed (through the selective application of pressure to the valves and pump stations) to operate the plasma pump PP2 and in-process pump PP1 in the manner set forth in the immediately preceding Table. The red

blood cells detected in the tube 292 are thereby returned to the processing chamber 18, and are thereby prevented from entering the plasma collection container 304.

5 The interface will, in time, move back toward the high-G wall. The controller 16 maintains these settings until the second sensor 336 detects a decrease in the red blood cell hematocrit below a set level, which indicates an under spill condition.

10 In response to an under spill condition, the system controller 16 increases Q_p until the second sensor 336 detects a red blood cell hematocrit above the desired set level. At this time, the controller 16 resets Q_p to the value at the time the most recent overspill condition was sensed.

3. Buffy Coat Collection

15 If desired, an over spill condition can be periodically induced during a given plasma collection procedure to collect the buffy coat in a buffy coat collection container 376 (see Fig. 10). As Fig. 10 shows, in the illustrated embodiment, the buffy coat collection container 376 is coupled by tubing
20 378 to the buffy port P4 of the cassette 28. The buffy coat collection container 376 is suspended on a weigh scale 246, which provides output reflecting weight changes over time, from which the controller 16 derives the volume of buffy coat collected.

25 In this arrangement, when the induced over spill condition is detected, the blood processing circuit 46 is programmed (through the selective application of pressure to the valves and pump stations) to operate the plasma pump PP2 (i.e., drawing in through valve V12 and expelling out through
30 valve V10), to draw plasma from the processing chamber 18 through the tube 378, while valves V4 and V6 are closed and valve V8 is opened. The buffy coat in the tube 378 is conveyed into the buffy coat collection container 376. The blood processing circuit 46 is also programmed during this
35 time to operate the in-process pump PP1 (i.e., drawing in

through the valve V9 and expelling out of the valve V14), to draw whole blood from the in-process container 312 into the processing chamber 18 at the set Q_{WB} . Red blood cells exit the chamber 18 through the tube 294 for collection in the collection container 308.

The programming of the circuit to relieve an over spill condition by collecting the buffy coat in the buffy coat collection container 376 is summarized in the following table.

TABLE
Programming of Blood Processing Circuit To Relive an Over
Spill Condition by Collecting the Buffy Coat
(Plasma Collection Procedures)

V1	•
V2	•
V3	•
V4	○
V5	•
V6	•
V7	•
V8	•
V9	●/○ Pump In
V10	●/○ Pump Out
V11	•
V12	●/○ Pump In
V13	•
V14	●/○ Pump Out
V15	•
V16	•
V17	•
V18	•
V19	•
V20	•

V21	•
V22	•
V23	•
PP1	□
PP2	□
PP3	■
PP4	■

Caption: ○ denotes an open valve; ● denotes a closed valve; ○/● denotes a valve opening and closing during a pumping sequence; ■ denotes an idle pump station (not in use); and □ denotes a pump station in use.

After a prescribed volume of buffy coat is conveyed into the buffy coat collection container 376 (as monitored by the weigh scale 246), normal blood processing conditions are resumed. Over spill conditions causing the movement of the buffy coat into the tube 378 can be induced at prescribed intervals during the process period, until a desired buffy coat volume is collected in the buffy coat collection container.

VI. Another Programmable Blood Processing Circuit

A. Circuit Schematic

As previously mentioned, various configurations for the programmable blood processing circuit 46 are possible. Fig. 5 schematically shows one representative configuration 46, the programmable features of which have been described. Fig. 34 shows another representative configuration of a blood processing circuit 46' having comparable programmable features.

Like the circuit 46, the circuit 46' includes several pump stations PP(N), which are interconnected by a pattern of fluid flow paths F(N) through an array of in line valves V(N). The circuit is coupled to the remainder of the blood processing set by ports P(N).

The circuit 46' includes a programmable network of flow

paths F1 to F33. The circuit 46' includes eleven universal ports P1 to P8 and P11 to P13 and four universal pump stations PP1, PP2, PP3, and PP4. By selective operation of the in line valves V1 to V21 and V23 to V25, any universal port P1 to P8 and P11 to P13 can be placed in flow communication with any universal pump station PP1, PP2, PP3, and PP4. By selective operation of the universal valves, fluid flow can be directed through any universal pump station in a forward direction or reverse direction between two valves, or an in-out direction through a single valve.

In the illustrated embodiment, the circuit 46' also includes an isolated flow path (comprising flow paths F9, F23, F24, and F10) with two ports P9 and P10 and one in line pump station PP5. The flow path is termed "isolated," because it cannot be placed into direct flow communication with any other flow path in the circuit 46' without exterior tubing. By selective operation of the in line valves V21 and V22, fluid flow can be directed through the pump station PP5 in a forward direction or reverse direction between two valves, or an in-out direction through a single valve.

Like circuit 46, the circuit 46' can be programmed to assigned dedicated pumping functions to the various pump stations. In a preferred embodiment, the universal pump stations PP3 and PP4 in tandem serve as a general purpose, donor interface pump, regardless of the particular blood procedure performed. The dual donor interface pump stations PP3 and PP4 in the circuit 46' work in parallel. One pump station draws fluid into its pump chamber, while the other pump station is expels fluid from its pump chamber. The pump station PP3 and PP4 alternate draw and expel functions.

In a preferred arrangement, the draw cycle for the drawing pump station is timed to be longer than the expel cycle for the expelling pump station. This provides a continuous flow of fluid on the inlet side of the pump stations and a pulsatile flow in the outlet side of the pump

stations. In one representative embodiment, the draw cycle is ten seconds, and the expel cycle is one second. The expelling pump station performs its one second cycle at the beginning of the draw cycle of the drawing pump, and then rests for the remaining nine seconds of the draw cycle. The pump stations then switch draw and expel functions. This creates a continuous inlet flow and a pulsatile outlet flow. The provision of two alternating pump stations PP3 and PP4 serves to reduce overall processing time, as fluid is continuously conducted into a drawing pump station through out the procedure.

In this arrangement, the isolated pump station PP5 of the circuit 46' serves as a dedicated anticoagulant pump, like pump station PP4 in the circuit 46, to draw anticoagulant from a source through the port P10 and to meter anticoagulant into the blood through port P9.

In this arrangement, as in the circuit 46, the universal pump station PP1 serves, regardless of the particular blood processing procedure performed, as a dedicated in-process whole blood pump, to convey whole blood into the blood separator. As in the circuit 46, the dedicated function of the pump station PP1 frees the donor interface pumps PP3 and PP4 from the added function of supplying whole blood to the blood separator. Thus, the in-process whole blood pump PP1 can maintain a continuous supply of blood to the blood separator, while the donor interface pumps PP3 and PP4 operate in tandem to simultaneously draw and return blood to the donor through the single phlebotomy needle. The circuit 46' thus minimizes processing time.

In this arrangement, as in circuit 46, the universal pump station PP2 of the circuit 46' serves, regardless of the particular blood processing procedure performed, as a plasma pump, to convey plasma from the blood separator. As in the circuit 46, the ability to dedicate separate pumping functions in the circuit 46' provides a continuous flow of

blood into and out of the separator, as well as to and from the donor.

The circuit 46' can be programmed to perform all the different procedures described above for the circuit 46. Depending upon the objectives of the particular blood processing procedure, the circuit 46' can be programmed to retain all or some of the plasma for storage or fractionation purposes, or to return all or some of the plasma to the donor. The circuit 46' can be further programmed, depending upon the objectives of the particular blood processing procedure, to retain all or some of the red blood cells for storage, or to return all or some of the red blood cells to the donor. The circuit 46' can also be programmed, depending upon the objectives of the particular blood processing procedure, to retain all or some of the buffy coat for storage, or to return all or some of the buffy coat to the donor.

In a preferred embodiment (see Fig. 34), the circuit 46' forms a part of a universal set 264', which is coupled to the ports P1 to P13.

More particularly, a donor tube 266', with attached phlebotomy needle 268' is coupled to the port P8 of the circuit 46'. An anticoagulant tube 270', coupled to the phlebotomy needle 268' is coupled to port P9. A container 276' holding anticoagulant is coupled via a tube 274' to the port P10.

A container 280' holding a red blood cell additive solution is coupled via a tube 278' to the port P3. A container 288' holding saline is coupled via a tube 284' to the port P12. A storage container 289' is coupled via a tube 291' to the port P13. An in-line leukocyte depletion filter 293' is carried by the tube 291' between the port P13 and the storage container 289'. The containers 276', 280', 288', and 289' can be integrally attached to the ports or can be attached at the time of use through a suitable sterile

connection, to thereby maintain a sterile, closed blood processing environment.

5 Tubes 290', 292', and 294', extend to an umbilicus 296' which is coupled to the processing chamber 18'. The tubes 290', 292', and 294 are coupled, respectively, to the ports P5, P6, and P7. The tube 290' conveys whole blood into the processing chamber 18 under the operation of the in-process pump station PP1. The tube 292' conveys plasma from the processing chamber 18' under the operation of the plasma pump chamber PP2. The tube 294' conveys red blood cells from processing chamber 18'.

10 A plasma collection container 304' is coupled by a tube 302' to the port P3. The collection container 304' is intended, in use, to serve as a reservoir for plasma during processing.

15 A red blood cell collection container 308' is coupled by a tube 306' to the port P2. The collection container 308' is intended, in use, to receive a unit of red blood cells for storage.

20 A buffy coat collection container 376' is coupled by a tube 377' to the port P4. The container 376' is intended, in use, to receive a volume of buffy coat for storage.

25 A whole blood reservoir 312' is coupled by a tube 310' to the port P1. The collection container 312' is intended, in use, to receive whole blood during operation of the donor interface pumps PP3 and PP4, to serve as a reservoir for whole blood during processing. It can also serve to receive a second unit of red blood cells for storage.

B. The Cassette

30 As Figs. 35 and 36 show, the programmable fluid circuit 46' can be implemented as an injection molded, pneumatically controlled cassette 28'. The cassette 28' interacts with the pneumatic pump and valve station 30, as previously described, to provide the same centralized, programmable, integrated platform as the cassette 28.

35

Fig. 35 and 36 show the cassette 28' in which the fluid circuit 46' (schematically shown in Fig. 34) is implemented. As previously described for the cassette 28, an array of interior wells, cavities, and channels are formed on both the front and back sides 190' and 192' of the cassette body 188', to define the pump stations PP1 to PP5, valve stations V1 to V25, and flow paths F1 to F33 shown schematically in Fig. 34. In Fig. 36, the flow paths F1 to F33, are shaded to facilitate their viewing. Flexible diaphragms 194' and 196' overlay the front and back sides 190' and 192' of the cassette body 188', resting against the upstanding peripheral edges surrounding the pump stations PP1 to PP5, valves V1 to V25, and flow paths F1 to F33. The pre-molded ports P1 to P13 extend out along two side edges of the cassette body 188'.

The cassette 28' is vertically mounted for use in the pump and valve station 30 in the same fashion shown in Fig. 2. In this orientation (which Fig. 36 shows), the side 192' faces outward, ports P8 to P13 face downward, and the ports P1 to P7 are vertically stacked one above the other and face inward.

As previously described, localized application by the pump and valve station 30 of positive and negative fluid pressures upon the diaphragm 194' serves to flex the diaphragm to close and open the valve stations V1 to V25 or to expel and draw liquid out of the pump stations PP1 to PP5.

An additional interior cavity 200' is provided in the back side 192' of the cassette body 188'. The cavity 200' forms a station that holds a blood filter material to remove clots and cellular aggregations that can form during blood processing. As shown schematically in Fig. 34, the cavity 200' is placed in the circuit 46' between the port P8 and the donor interface pump stations PP3 and PP4, so that blood returned to the donor passes through the filter. Return blood flow enters the cavity 200' through flow path F27 and exits the cavity 200' through flow path F8. The cavity 200' also

serves to trap air in the flow path to and from the donor.

Another interior cavity 201' (see Fig. 35) is also provided in the back side 192' of the cassette body 188'. The cavity 201' is placed in the circuit 46' between the port P5 and the valve V16 of the in-process pumping station PP1. Blood enters the cavity 201' from flow path F16 through opening 203' and exits the cavity 201' into flow path F5 through opening 205'. The cavity 201' serves as another air trap within the cassette body 188' in the flow path serving the separation chamber 26'. The cavity 201' also serves as a capacitor to dampen the pulsatile pump strokes of the in-process pump PP1 serving the separation chamber.

C. Associated Pneumatic Manifold Assembly

Fig. 43 shows a pneumatic manifold assembly 226' that can be used in association with the cassette 28', to supply positive and negative pneumatic pressures to convey fluid through the cassette 28'. The front side 194' of the diaphragm is held in intimate engagement against the manifold assembly 226' when the door 32 of the pump station 20 is closed and bladder 314 inflated. The manifold assembly 226', under the control of the controller 16, selectively distributes the different pressure and vacuum levels to the pump and valve actuators PA(N) and VA(N) of the cassette 28'. These levels of pressure and vacuum are systematically applied to the cassette 28', to route blood and processing liquids. Under the control of a controller 16, the manifold assembly 226 also distributes pressure levels to the door bladder 314 (already described), as well as to a donor pressure cuff (also already described) and to a donor line occluder 320 (also already described). The manifold assembly 226' for the cassette 28' shown in Fig. 43 shares many attributes with the manifold assembly 226 previously described for the cassette 28, as shown in Fig. 12.

Like the manifold assembly 226, the manifold assembly 226' is coupled to a pneumatic pressure source 234', which

is carried inside the lid 40 behind the manifold assembly 226'. As in manifold assembly 226, the pressure source 234' for the manifold assembly 226 comprises two compressors C1' and C2', although one or several dual-head compressors could be used as well. Compressor C1 supplies negative pressure through the manifold 226' to the cassette 28'. The other compressor C2' supplies positive pressure through the manifold 226' to the cassette 28.

As Fig. 43 shows, the manifold 226' contains five pump actuators PA1 to PA4 and twenty-five valve actuators VA1 to VA25. The pump actuators PA1 to PA5 and the valve actuators VA1 to VA25 are mutually oriented to form a mirror image of the pump stations PP1 to PP5 and valve stations V1 to V25 on the front side 190' of the cassette 28'.

Like the manifold assembly 226, the manifold assembly 226' shown in Fig. 43 includes an array of solenoid actuated pneumatic valves, which are coupled in-line with the pump and valve actuators PA1 to PA5 and VA1 to VA25.

Like the manifold assembly 226, the manifold assembly 226' maintains several different pressure and vacuum conditions, under the control of the controller 16.

As previously described in connection with the manifold assembly 226, Phard, or Hard Pressure, and Pinpr, or In-Process Pressure are high positive pressures (e.g., + 500 mmHg) maintained by the manifold assembly 226' for closing the cassette valves V1 to V25 and to drive the expression of liquid from the in-process pump PP1 and the plasma pump PP2. As before explained, the magnitude of Pinpr must be sufficient to overcome a minimum pressure of approximately 300 mm Hg, which is typically present within the processing chamber 18. Pinpr and Phard are operated at the highest pressure to ensure that upstream and downstream valves used in conjunction with pumping are not forced opened by the pressures applied to operate the pumps.

Pgen, or General Pressure (+ 300 mmHg), is applied to

drive the expression of liquid from the donor interface pumps PP3 and PP4 and the anticoagulant pump PP5.

Vhard, or Hard Vacuum (-350 mmHg), is the deepest vacuum applied in the manifold assembly 226' to open cassette valves V1 to V25. Vgen, or General Vacuum (-300 mmHg), is applied to drive the draw function of each of the pumps PP1 to PP5. Vgen is required to be less extreme than Vhard, to ensure that pumps PP1 to PP5 do not overwhelm upstream and downstream cassette valves V1 to V25.

A main hard pressure line 322' and a main vacuum line 324' distribute Phard and Vhard in the manifold assembly 324. The pressure and vacuum sources 234' run continuously to supply Phard to the hard pressure line 322' and Vhard to the hard vacuum line 324'. A pressure sensor S2 monitors Phard in the hard pressure line 322'. The sensor S2 opens and closes the solenoid 38 to build Phard up to its maximum set value.

Similarly, a pressure sensor S6 in the hard vacuum line 324' monitors Vhard. The sensor S6 controls a solenoid 43 to maintain Vhard as its maximum value.

A general pressure line 326' branches from the hard pressure line 322'. A sensor S4 in the general pressure line 326' monitors Pgen. The sensor S2 controls a solenoid 34 to maintain Pgen within its specified pressure range.

A general vacuum line 330' branches from the hard vacuum line 324'. A sensor S5 monitors Vgen in the general vacuum line 330'. The sensor S5 controls a solenoid 45 to keep Vgen within its specified vacuum range.

In-line reservoirs R1 to R4 are provided in the hard pressure line 322, the general pressure line 326', the hard vacuum line 324', and the general vacuum line 330'. The reservoirs R1 to R4 assure that the constant pressure and vacuum adjustments as above described are smooth and predictable.

The solenoids 32 and 43 provide a vent for the

pressures and vacuums, respectively, upon procedure completion.

5 The solenoids 41, 2, 46, and 47 provide the capability to isolate the reservoirs R1 to R4 from the air lines that supply vacuum and pressure to the pump and valve actuators. This provides for much quicker pressure/vacuum decay feedback, so that testing of cassette/manifold assembly seal integrity can be accomplished.

10 The solenoids 1 to 25 provide Phard or Vhard to drive the valve actuators VA1 to V25. The solenoids 27 and 28 provide Pinpr and Vgen to drive the in-process and plasma pumps PP1 and PP2. The solenoids 30 and 31 provide Pgen and Vgen to drive the donor interface pumps actuators PA3 and PA4. The solenoid 29 provides Pgen and Vgen to drive the AC
15 pump actuator PP5.

The solenoid 35 provides isolation of the door bladder 314 from the hard pressure line 322' during the procedure. A sensor S1 monitors Pdoor and control the solenoid 35 to keep the pressure within its specified range.

20 The solenoid 40 provides Phard to open the safety occluder valve 320'. Any error modes that might endanger the donor will relax (vent) the solenoid 40 to close the occluder 320' and isolate the donor. Similarly, any loss of power will relax the solenoid 40 and isolate the donor.

25 The sensor S3 monitors Pcuff and communicates with solenoids 36 (for increases in pressure) and solenoid 37 (for venting) to maintain the donor cuff within its specified ranges during the procedure.

30 As before explained, any solenoid can be operated in "normally open" mode or can be re-routed pneumatically to be operated in a "normally closed" mode, and vice versa.

D. Exemplary Pumping Functions

Based upon the foregoing description of the programming of the fluid circuit 46 implemented by the cassette 28, one
35 can likewise program the fluid circuit 46' implemented by the

cassette 28' to perform all the various blood process functions already described. Certain pumping functions for the fluid circuit 46', common to various blood processing procedures, will be described by way of example.

5 1. **Whole Blood Flow To the In-Process Container**

In a first phase of a given blood collection cycle, the blood processing circuit 46' is programmed (through the selective application of pressure to the valves and pump stations of the cassette 28') to jointly operate the donor
10 interface pumps PP3 and PP4 to transfer anticoagulated whole blood into the in-process container 312' prior to separation.

In a first phase (see Fig. 37A), the pump PP3 is operated in a ten second draw cycle(i.e., in through valves V12 and V13, with valves V6, V14, V18, and V15 closed) in
15 tandem with the anticoagulant pump PP5 (i.e., in through valve V22 and out through valve V21) to draw anticoagulated blood through the donor tube 270 into the pump PP3. At the same time, the donor interface pump PP4 is operated in a one second expel cycle to expel (out through valve V7)
20 anticoagulant blood from its chamber into the process container 312' through flow paths F20 and F1 (through opened valve V4).

At the end of the draw cycle for pump PP3 (see Fig. 37B), the blood processing circuit 46' is programmed to
25 operate the donor interface pump PP4 in a ten second draw cycle(i.e., in through valves V12 and V14, with valves V13, V18, and V18 closed) in tandem with the anticoagulant pump PP5 to draw anticoagulated blood through the donor tube 270 into the pump PP4. At the same time, the donor interface pump
30 PP3 is operated in a one second expel cycle to expel (out through valve V6) anticoagulant blood from its chamber into the process container 312' through the flow paths F20 and F1 (through opened valve V4).

These alternating cycles continue until an incremental
35 volume of anticoagulated whole blood enters the in process

container 312', as monitored by a weigh sensor. As Fig. 37C shows, the blood processing circuit 46' is programmed to operate the in-process pump station PP1 (i.e., in through valve V1 and out through valve V16) and the plasma pump PP2 (i.e., in through valve V17 and out through valve V11, with valve V9 opened and valve V10 closed) to convey anticoagulated whole blood from the in-process container 312 into the processing chamber 18' for separation, while removing plasma into the plasma container 304 (through opened valve V9) and red blood cells into the red blood cell container 308 (through open valve V2), in the manner previously described with respect to the circuit 46. This phase continues until an incremental volume of plasma is collected in the plasma collection container 304 (as monitored by the weigh sensor) or until a targeted volume of red blood cells is collected in the red blood cell collection container (as monitored by the weigh sensor). The donor interface pumps PP3 and PP4 toggle to perform alternating draw and expel cycles as necessary to keep the volume of anticoagulated whole blood in the in-process container 312' between prescribed minimum and maximum levels, as blood processing proceeds.

2. Red Blood Cell Return with In-Line Addition of Saline

When it is desired to return red blood cells to the donor (see Fig. 37D), the blood processing circuit 46' is programmed to operate the donor interface pump station PP3 in a ten second draw cycle(i.e., in through valve V6, with valves V13 and V7 closed) to draw red blood cells from the red blood cell container 308' into the pump PP3 (through open valves V2, V3, and V5, valve V10 being closed). At the same time, the donor interface pump PP4 is operated in a one second expel cycle to expel (out through valves V14 and V18, with valves V12 and V21 closed) red blood cells from its chamber to the donor through the filter cavity 200'.

At the end of the draw cycle for pump PP3 (see Fig. 37E), the blood processing circuit 46' is programmed to operate the donor interface pump PP4 in a ten second draw cycle(i.e., in through valve V7, with valves V6 and V14 closed) to draw red blood cells from the red blood cell container 308' into the pump PP4. At the same time, the donor interface pump PP3 is operated in a one second expel cycle to expel (out through valves V13 and V18, with valve V12 closed) red blood cells from its chamber to the donor through the filter chamber 200'. These alternating cycles continue until a desired volume of red blood cells are returned to the donor.

Simultaneously, valves V24, V20, and V8 are opened, so that the drawing pump station PP3 or PP4 also draws saline from the saline container 288' for mixing with red blood cells drawn into the chamber. As before explained, the in line mixing of saline with the red blood cells raises the saline temperature and improves donor comfort, while also lowering the hematocrit of the red blood cells.

Simultaneously, the in-process pump PP1 is operated (i.e., in through valve V1 and out through valve V16) and the plasma pump PP2 (i.e., in through valve V17 and out through valve V11, with valve V9 open) to convey anticoagulated whole blood from the in-process container 312 into the processing chamber for separation, while removing plasma into the plasma container 304, in the manner previously described with respect to the fluid circuit 46.

3. In-Line Addition of Red Blood Cell Additive Solution

In a blood processing procedure where red blood cells are collected for storage (e.g., the Double Red Blood Cell Collection Procedure or the Red Blood Cell and Plasma Collection Procedure) the circuit 46' is programmed to operate the donor interface pump station PP3 in a ten second draw cycle(in through valves V15 and V13, with valve V23

opened and valves V8, V12 and V18 closed) to draw red blood cell storage solution from the container 280' into the pump PP3 (see Fig. 38A). Simultaneously, the circuit 46' is programmed to operate the donor interface pump station PP4 in a one second expel cycle(out through valve V7, with valves V14 and V18 closed) to expel red blood cell storage solution to the container(s) where red blood cells reside (e.g., the in-process container 312 (through open valve V4) or the red blood cell collection container 308' (through open valves V5, V3, and V2, with valve V10 closed).

At the end of the draw cycle for pump PP3 (see Fig. 38B), the blood processing circuit 46' is programmed to operate the donor interface pump PP4 in a ten second draw cycle(i.e., in through valve V14, with valves V7, V18, V12, and V13 closed) to draw red blood cell storage solution from the container 280' into the pump PP4. At the same time, the donor interface pump PP3 is operated in a one second expel cycle to expel (out through valve V6, with valves V13 and V12 closed) red blood cell storage solution to the container(s) where red blood cells reside. These alternating cycles continue until a desired volume of red blood cell storage solution is added to the red blood cells.

4. In-Line Leukocyte Depletion

Circuit 46' provides the capability to conduct on-line depletion of leukocytes from collected red blood cells. In this mode (see Fig. 39A), the circuit 46' is programmed to operate the donor interface pump station PP3 in a ten second draw cycle(in through valve V6, with valves V13 and V12 closed) to draw red blood cells from the container(s) where red blood cells reside (e.g., the in-process container 312' (through open valve V4) or the red blood cell collection container 308 (through open valves V5, V3, and V2, with valve V10 closed)into the pump PP3. Simultaneously, the circuit 46' is programmed to operate the donor interface pump station PP4 in a one second expel cycle(out through valve V14, with

valves V18 and V8 closed and valves V15 and V25 opened) to expel red blood cells through tube 291' through the in-line leukocyte depletion filter 293' to the leukocyte-depleted red blood cell storage container 289'.

5 At the end of the draw cycle for pump PP3 (see Fig. 39B), the blood processing circuit 46' is programmed to operate the donor interface pump PP4 in a ten second draw cycle(i.e., in through valve V7, with valves V14 and V18 closed) to draw red blood cells from the container 312' or
10 308' into the pump PP4. At the same time, the donor interface pump PP3 is operated in a one second expel cycle to expel (out through valve V13, with valve V12 closed and valves V15 and V25 opened) red blood cells through tube 291' through the in-line leukocyte depletion filter 293' to the leukocyte-depleted red blood cell storage container 289'. These
15 alternating cycles continue until a desired volume of red blood cells are transferred through the filter 293 into the container 289'.

5. **Staged Buffy Coat Harvesting**

20 In circuit 46 (see Fig. 5), buffy coat is collected through port P4, which is served by flow line F4, which branches from flow line F26, which conveys plasma from the plasma pump station PP2 to the plasma collection container 304 (also see Fig. 10). In the circuit 46' (see Fig. 34),
25 the buffy coat is collected through the port P4 from the flow path F6 as controlled by valve V19. The buffy coat collection path bypasses the plasma pump station PP2, keeping the plasma pump station PP2 free of exposure to the buffy coat, thereby keeping the collected plasma free of
30 contamination by the buffy coat components.

 During separation, the system controller (already described) maintains the buffy coat layer within the separation chamber 18' at a distance spaced from the low-G wall, away from the plasma collection line 292 (see Fig.
35 15A). This allows the buffy coat component to accumulate

during processing as plasma is conveyed by operation of the plasma pump PP2 from the chamber into the plasma collection container 304'.

5 To collect the accumulated buffy coat component, the controller opens the buffy coat collection valve V19, and closes the inlet valve V17 of the plasma pump station PP2 and the red blood cell collection valve V2. The in-process pump PP1 continues to operate, bringing whole blood into the chamber 18'. The flow of whole blood into the chamber 18' moves the buffy coat to the low-G wall, inducing an over spill condition) (see Fig. 15B). The buffy coat component enters the plasma collection line 292' and enters flow path F6 through the port P6. The circuit 46' conveys the buffy coat component in F6 through the opened valve V19 directly into path F4 for passage through the port P4 into the collection container 376'.

15 The valve V19 is closed when the sensing station 332 senses the presence of red blood cells. The plasma pumping station PP2 can be temporarily operated in a reverse flow direction (in through the valve V11 and out through the valve V17, with valve V9 opened) to flow plasma from the collection container 302' through the tube 292' toward the separation chamber, to flush resident red blood from the tube 292' back into the separation chamber. The controller can resume normal plasma and red blood cell collection, by opening the red blood cell collection valve V2 and operating the plasma pumping station PP2 (in through valve V17 and out through valve V11) to resume the conveyance of plasma from the separation chamber to the collection container 302'.

25 Over spill conditions causing the movement of the buffy coat for collection can be induced at prescribed intervals during the process period, until a desired buffy coat volume is collected in the buffy coat collection container.

30 6. Miscellaneous

35 As Fig. 43 shows in phantom lines, the manifold

assembly 226' can include an auxiliary pneumatic actuator A_{AUX} selectively apply P_{HARD} to the region of the flexible diaphragm that overlies the interior cavity 201' (see Fig. 35). As previously described, whole blood expelled by the pumping station PP1 (by application of P_{HARD} by actuator PA2), enters flow path F5 through openings 203' and 205' into the processing chamber 18'. During the next subsequent stroke of the PP1, to draw whole blood into the pumping chamber PP1 by application of V_{GEN} by actuator PA2, residual whole blood residing in the cavity 201' is expelled into flow path F5 through opening 205', and into the processing chamber 18' by application of P_{HARD} by A_{AUX} . The cavity 201' also serves as a capacitor to dampen the pulsatile pump strokes of the in-process pump PP1 serving the separation chamber 18'.

It is desirable to conduct seal integrity testing of the cassette 28' shown in Fig. 35 and 36 prior to use. The integrity test determines that the pump and valve stations within the cassette 28' function without leaking. In this situation, it is desirable to isolate the cassette 28' from the separation chamber 26'. Valves V19 and V16 (see Fig. 34) in circuit 264' provide isolation for the whole blood inlet and plasma lines 292' and 296' of the chamber 18'. To provide the capability of also isolating the red blood cell line 294', an extra valve fluid actuated station V26 can be added in fluid flow path F7 serving port P7. As further shown in phantom lines in Fig. 43, an addition valve actuator VA26 can be added to the manifold assembly 26', to apply positive pressure to the valve V26, to close the valve V26 when isolation is required, and to apply negative pressure to the valve V26, to open the valve when isolation is not required.

VII. Blood Separation Elements

A. Molded Processing Chamber

Figs. 21 to 23 show an embodiment of the centrifugal processing chamber 18, which can be used in association with the system 10 shown in Fig. 1.

In the illustrated embodiment, the processing chamber 18 is preformed in a desired shape and configuration, e.g., by injection molding, from a rigid, biocompatible plastic material, such as a non-plasticized medical grade acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene (ABS).

The preformed configuration of the chamber 18 includes a unitary, molded base 388. The base 388 includes a center hub 120. The hub 120 is surrounded radially by inside and outside annular walls 122 and 124 (see Figs. 21 and 23). Between them, the inside and outside annular walls 122 and 124 define a circumferential blood separation channel 126. A molded annular wall 148 closes the bottom of the channel 126 (see Fig. 22).

The top of the channel 126 is closed by a separately molded, flat lid 150 (which is shown separated in Fig. 21 for the purpose of illustration). During assembly, the lid 150 is secured to the top of the chamber 18, e.g., by use of a cylindrical sonic welding horn.

All contours, ports, channels, and walls that affect the blood separation process are preformed in the base 388 in a single, injection molded operation. Alternatively, the base 388 can be formed by separate molded parts, either by nesting cup shaped subassemblies or two symmetric halves.

The lid 150 comprises a simple flat part that can be easily welded to the base 388. Because all features that affect the separation process are incorporated into one injection molded component, any tolerance differences between the base 388 and the lid 150 will not affect the separation efficiencies of the chamber 18.

The contours, ports, channels, and walls that are preformed in the base 388 can vary. In the embodiment shown in Figs. 21 to 23, circumferentially spaced pairs of stiffening walls 128, 130, and 132 emanate from the hub 120 to the inside annular wall 122. The stiffening walls 128, 130, 132 provide rigidity to the chamber 18.

As seen in Fig. 23, the inside annular wall 122 is open between one pair 130 of the stiffening walls. The opposing stiffening walls form an open interior region 134 in the hub 120, which communicates with the channel 126. Blood and fluids are introduced from the umbilicus 296 into and out of the separation channel 126 through this region 134.

In this embodiment (as Fig. 23 shows), a molded interior wall 136 formed inside the region 134 extends entirely across the channel 126, joining the outside annular wall 124. The wall 136 forms a terminus in the separation channel 126, which interrupts flow circumferentially along the channel 126 during separation.

Additional molded interior walls divide the region 124 into three passages 142, 144, and 146. The passages 142, 144, and 146 extend from the hub 120 and communicate with the channel 126 on opposite sides of the terminus wall 136. Blood and other fluids are directed from the hub 120 into and out of the channel 126 through these passages 142, 144, and 146. As will be explained in greater detail later, the passages 142, 144, and 146 can direct blood components into and out of the channel 126 in various flow patterns.

The underside of the base 388 (see Fig. 22) includes a shaped receptacle 179. Three preformed nipples 180 occupy the receptacle 179. Each nipple 180 leads to one of the passages 142, 144, 146 on the opposite side of the base 388.

The far end of the umbilicus 296 includes a shaped mount 178 (see Figs. 24 and 24A). The mount 178 is shaped to correspond to the shape of the receptacle 179. The mount 178 can thus be plugged into the receptacle 179 (as Fig. 25 shows). The mount 178 includes interior lumens 398 (see Fig. 24A), which slide over the nipples 180 in the hub 120, to couple the umbilicus 296 in fluid communication with the channel 126.

Ribs 181 within the receptacle 179 (see Fig. 22) uniquely fit within a key way 183 formed on the mount 178

(see Fig. 24A). The unique fit between the ribs 181 and the key way 183 is arranged to require a particular orientation for plugging the shaped mount 178 into the shaped receptacle 179. In this way, a desired flow orientation among the umbilicus 296 and the passages 142, 144, and 146 is assured.

In the illustrated embodiment, the umbilicus 296 and mount 178 are formed from a material or materials that withstand the considerable flexing and twisting forces, to which the umbilicus 296 is subjected during use. For example, a Hytrel® polyester material can be used.

This material, while well suited for the umbilicus 296, is not compatible with the ABS plastic material of the base 388, which is selected to provide a rigid, molded blood processing environment. The mount 178 thus cannot be attached by conventional by solvent bonding or ultrasonic welding techniques to the receptacle 179.

In this arrangement (see Figs. 24 and 25), the dimensions of the shaped receptacle 179 and the shaped mount 178 are preferably selected to provide a tight, dry press fit. In addition, a capturing piece 185, formed of ABS material (or another material compatible with the material of the base 388), is preferably placed about the umbilicus 296 outside the receptacle in contact with the peripheral edges of the receptacle 179. The capturing piece 185 is secured to the peripheral edges of the receptacle 179, e.g., by swaging or ultrasonic welding techniques. The capturing piece 185 prevents inadvertent separation of the mount 178 from the receptacle 181. In this way, the umbilicus 296 can be integrally connected to the base 388 of the chamber 18, even though incompatible plastic materials are used.

The centrifuge station 20 (see Figs. 26 to 28) includes a centrifuge assembly 48. The centrifuge assembly 48 is constructed to receive and support the molded processing chamber 18 for use.

As illustrated, the centrifuge assembly 48 includes a

yoke 154 having bottom, top, and side walls 156, 158, 160. The yoke 154 spins on a bearing element 162 attached to the bottom wall 156. An electric drive motor 164 is coupled via an axle to the bottom wall 156 of the collar 154, to rotate the yoke 154 about an axis 64. In the illustrated embodiment, the axis 64 is tilted about fifteen degrees above the horizontal plane of the base 38, although other angular orientations can be used.

A rotor plate 166 spins within the yoke 154 about its own bearing element 168, which is attached to the top wall 158 of the yoke 154. The rotor plate 166 spins about an axis that is generally aligned with the axis of rotation 64 of the yoke 154.

The top of the processing chamber 18 includes an annular lip 380, to which the lid 150 is secured. Gripping tabs 382 carried on the periphery of the rotor plate 166 make snap-fit engagement with the lip 380, to secure the processing chamber 18 on the rotor plate 166 for rotation.

A sheath 182 on the near end of the umbilicus 296 fits into a bracket 184 in the centrifuge station 20. The bracket 184 holds the near end of the umbilicus 296 in a non-rotating stationary position aligned with the mutually aligned rotational axes 64 of the yoke 154 and rotor plate 166.

An arm 186 protruding from either or both side walls 160 of the yoke 154 contacts the mid portion of the umbilicus 296 during rotation of the yoke 154. Constrained by the bracket 184 at its near end and the chamber 16 at its far end (where the mount 178 is secured inside the receptacle 179), the umbilicus 296 twists about its own axis as it rotates about the yoke axis 64. The twirling of the umbilicus 296 about its axis as it rotates at one omega with the yoke 154 imparts a two omega rotation to the rotor plate 166, and thus to the processing chamber 18 itself.

The relative rotation of the yoke 154 at a one omega rotational speed and the rotor plate 166 at a two omega

rotational speed, keeps the umbilicus 296 untwisted, avoiding the need for rotating seals. The illustrated arrangement also allows a single drive motor 164 to impart rotation, through the umbilicus 296, to the mutually rotating yoke 154 and rotor plate 166. Further details of this arrangement are disclosed in Brown et al U.S. Patent 4,120,449, which is incorporated herein by reference.

Blood is introduced into and separated within the processing chamber 18 as it rotates.

In one flow arrangement (see Fig. 29), as the processing chamber 18 rotates (arrow R in Fig. 29), the umbilicus 296 conveys whole blood into the channel 126 through the passage 146. The whole blood flows in the channel 126 in the same direction as rotation (which is counterclockwise in Fig. 29). Alternatively, the chamber 18 can be rotated in a direction opposite to the circumferential flow of whole blood, i.e., clockwise. The whole blood separates as a result of centrifugal forces in the manner shown in Fig. 15A. Red blood cells are driven toward the high-G wall 124, while lighter plasma constituent is displaced toward the low-G wall 122.

In this flow pattern, a dam 384 projects into the channel 126 toward the high-G wall 124. The dam 384 prevents passage of plasma, while allowing passage of red blood cells into a channel 386 recessed in the high-G wall 124. The channel 386 directs the red blood cells into the umbilicus 296 through the radial passage 144. The plasma constituent is conveyed from the channel 126 through the radial passage 142 into umbilicus 296.

Because the red blood cell exit channel 386 extends outside the high-g wall 124, being spaced further from the rotational axis than the high-g wall, the red blood cell exit channel 386 allows the positioning of the interface between the red blood cells and the buffy coat very close to the high-g wall 124 during blood processing, without spilling the

buffy coat into the red blood cell collection passage 144 (creating an over spill condition). The recessed exit channel 386 thereby permits red blood cell yields to be maximized (in a red blood cell collection procedure) or an essentially platelet-free plasma to be collected (in a plasma collection procedure).

In an alternative flow arrangement (see Fig. 30), the umbilicus 296 conveys whole blood into the channel 126 through the passage 142. The processing chamber 18 rotates (arrow R in Fig. 30) in the same direction as whole blood flow (which is clockwise in Fig. 30). Alternatively, the chamber 18 can be rotated in a direction opposite to the circumferential flow of whole blood, i.e., clockwise. The whole blood separates as a result of centrifugal forces in the manner shown in Fig. 15A. Red blood cells are driven toward the high-G wall 124, while lighter plasma constituent is displaced toward the low-G wall 122.

In this flow pattern, the dam 384 (previously described) prevents passage of plasma, while allowing passage of red blood cells into the recessed channel 386. The channel 386 directs the red blood cells into the umbilicus 296 through the radial passage 144. The plasma constituent is conveyed from the opposite end of the channel 126 through the radial passage 146 into umbilicus 296.

In another alternative flow arrangement (see Fig. 31), the umbilicus 296 conveys whole blood into the channel 126 through the passage 144. The processing chamber 18 is rotated (arrow R in Fig. 31) in the same direction as blood flow (which is clockwise in Fig. 31). Alternatively, the chamber 18 can be rotated in a direction opposite to the circumferential flow of whole blood, i.e., counterclockwise. The whole blood separates as a result of centrifugal forces in the manner shown in Fig. 15A. Red blood cells are driven toward the high-G wall 124, while lighter plasma constituent is displaced toward the low-G wall 122.

In this flow pattern, a dam 385 at the opposite end of the channel 126 prevents passage of plasma, while allowing passage of red blood cells into a recessed channel 387. The channel 387 directs the red blood cells into the umbilicus 296 through the radial passage 146. The plasma constituent is conveyed from the other end of the channel 126 through the radial passage 142 into umbilicus 296. In this arrangement, the presence of the dam 384 and the recessed passage 386 (previously described) separates incoming whole blood flow (in passageway 144) from outgoing plasma flow (in passageway 142). This flow arrangement makes possible the collection of platelet-rich plasma, if desired.

In another alternative flow arrangement (see Fig. 32), the passage 144 extends from the hub 120 into the channel 126 in a direction different than the passages 142 and 146. In this arrangement, the terminus wall 136 separates the passages 142 and 146, and the passage 144 communicates with the channel 126 at a location that lays between the passages 142 and 146. In this arrangement, the umbilicus 296 conveys whole blood into the channel 126 through the passage 146. The processing chamber 18 is rotated (arrow R in Fig. 32) in the same direction as blood flow (which is clockwise in Fig. 32). Alternatively, the chamber 18 can be rotated in a direction opposite to the circumferential flow of whole blood, i.e., counterclockwise. The whole blood separates as a result of centrifugal forces in the manner shown in Fig. 15A. Red blood cells are driven toward the high-G wall 124, while lighter plasma constituent is displaced toward the low-G wall 122.

In this flow pattern, the passage 144 conveys plasma from the channel 126, while the passage 142 conveys red blood cells from the channel 126.

As previously mentioned, in any of the flow patterns shown in Figs. 28 to 32, the chamber 18 can be rotated in the same direction or in an opposite direction to circumferential flow of whole blood in the channel 126. Blood separation as

described will occur in either circumstance. Nevertheless,
it has been discovered that, rotating the chamber 18 in the
same direction as the flow of whole blood in the channel 126
during separation, appears to minimize disturbances due,
e.g., Coriolis effects, resulting in increased separation
efficiencies.

Example

Whole blood was separated during various experiments
into red blood cells and plasma in processing chambers 18
like that shown in Fig. 28. In one chamber (which will be
called Chamber 1), whole blood circumferentially flowed in
the channel 126 in the same direction as the chamber 18 was
rotated (i.e., the chamber 18 was rotated in a
counterclockwise direction). In the other chamber 18 (which
will be called Chamber 2), whole blood circumferentially
flowed in the channel 126 in a direction opposite to chamber
rotation (i.e., the chamber 18 was rotated in a clockwise
direction). The average hematocrit for red blood cells
collected were measured for various blood volume samples,
processed at different combinations of whole blood inlet flow
rates and plasma outlet flow rates. The following Tables
summarize the results for the various experiments.

Table 1
(Flow in the Same Direction as Rotation)

	Average Whole Blood Hematocrit (%)	Average Hematocrit of Red Blood Cells Collected
Number of Blood Samples Processed		
7	45.4	74.8
4	40	78.8

Table 2
(Flow in the Opposite Direction as Rotation)

	Average Whole Blood Hematocrit (%)	Average Hematocrit of Red Blood Cells Collected
Number of Blood Samples Processed		
3	43.5	55.5
2	42.25	58.25

Tables 1 and 2 show that, when blood flow in the chamber is in the same direction as rotation, the hematocrit of red blood cells is greater than when blood flow is in the opposite direction. A greater yield of red blood cells also means a greater yield of plasma during the procedure.

Fig. 33 shows a chamber 18' having a unitary molded base 388' like that shown in Figs. 21 to 23, but in which two flow paths 126' and 390 are formed. The flow paths 126' and 390 are shown to be concentric, but they need not be. The chamber 18' shares many other structural features in common with the chamber 18 shown in Fig. 23. Common structural features are identified by the same reference number marked with an asterisk.

The base 388' includes a center hub 120' which is surrounded radially by the inside and outside annular walls 122' and 124', defining between them the circumferential blood separation channel 126'. In this embodiment, a second inside annular wall 392 radially surrounds the hub 120'. The second circumferential blood separation channel 390 is defined between the inside annular walls 122' and 392. This construction forms the concentric outside and inside separation channels 126' and 390.

An interruption 394 in the annular wall 122' adjacent to the dam 384' establishes flow communication between the outside channel 126' and the inside channel 390. An interior wall 396 blocks flow communication between the channels 126'

and 390 at their opposite ends.

As the processing chamber 18' rotates (arrow R in Fig. 33), the umbilicus 296 conveys whole blood into the outside channel 126' through the passage 144'. The whole blood flows in the channel 126' in the same direction as rotation (which is counterclockwise in Fig. 33). Alternatively, the chamber 18' can be rotated in a direction opposite to the circumferential flow of whole blood, i.e., clockwise. The whole blood separates in the outside channel 126' as a result of centrifugal forces in the manner shown in Fig. 15A. Red blood cells are driven toward the high-G wall 124', while lighter plasma constituent is displaced toward the low-G wall 122'.

As previously described, the dam 384' prevents passage of plasma, while allowing passage of red blood cells into a channel 386' recessed in the high-G wall 124'. The channel 386' directs the red blood cells into the umbilicus 296 through the radial passage 142'. The plasma constituent is conveyed from the channel 126' through the interruption 394 into the inside separation channel 390.

The plasma flows circumferentially flow through the inside channel 390 in a direction opposite to the whole blood in the outside channel 126'. Platelets remaining in the plasma migrate in response to centrifugal forces against the annular wall 124'. The channel 390 directs the plasma constituent to the same end of the chamber 18' where whole blood is initially introduced. The plasma constituent is conveyed from the channel 390 by the passage 146'.

VIII. Other Blood Processing Functions

The many features of the invention have been demonstrated by describing their use in separating whole blood into component parts for storage and blood component therapy. This is because the invention is well adapted for use in carrying out these blood processing procedures. It should be appreciated, however, that the features of the

invention equally lend themselves to use in other blood processing procedures.

For example, the systems and methods described, which make use of a programmable cassette in association with a blood processing chamber, can be used for the purpose of washing or salvaging blood cells during surgery, or for the purpose of conducting therapeutic plasma exchange, or in any other procedure where blood is circulated in an extracorporeal path for treatment.

Features of the invention are set forth in the following claims.

We Claim:

1. A blood processing system comprising
a donor flow channel to convey fluid to and from
a donor,

5 a blood processing flow channel including a blood
separation chamber to separate a blood component from donor
blood,

a blood component collection flow channel
including a blood component collection container,

10 a pump station communicating with the donor flow
channel, the blood processing flow channel, and the blood
component collection flow channel, and

15 a controller to operate the pump station in
multiple modes, including a processing mode, during which the
pump station is operated to convey blood in the donor flow
channel into the blood processing flow channel for separation
of the blood component in the blood separation chamber, and
a collection mode, during which the pump station is operated
to convey at least some of the blood component in the blood
processing flow channel into the blood component collection
20 flow channel for collection in the blood component collection
container.

2. A system according to claim 1
wherein the blood component collection flow
channel includes a filter to remove undesired materials from
the blood component before entering the blood component
5 collection container.

3. A system according to claim 2
wherein the filter removes leukocytes.

4. A system according to claim 1
wherein the controller operates the pump station
in a blood component return mode, during which the pump
station is operated to convey at least some of the blood
5 component in the blood processing flow channel into the donor
flow channel for return to the donor.

5. A system according to claim 1
further including a utility flow channel
including a processing fluid container,

5 wherein the pump station communicates with the
utility flow channel, and

wherein the controller operates the pump station
during the blood component return mode to convey processing
fluid in the utility flow channel into the donor flow channel
for mixing with the blood component returned to the donor.

6. A system according to claim 5
wherein the processing fluid includes saline.

7. A system according to claim 1
further including a utility flow channel
including a processing fluid container,

5 wherein the pump station communicates with the
utility flow channel, and

10 wherein the controller operates the pump station
in a processing fluid transfer mode, during which the pump
station is operated to convey processing fluid in the utility
flow channel into the blood processing flow channel for
mixing with the blood component.

8. A system according to claim 7
wherein the processing fluid includes a blood
component additive.

9. A system according to claim 1
wherein the pump station includes a fluid
pressure actuated pump and an actuator to apply fluid
pressure to the pump, and

5 wherein the controller is coupled to the
actuator.

10. A system according to claim 1
wherein the pump station, the donor flow channel,
the blood processing flow channel, and the blood component
collection flow channel communicate within a cassette.

11. A system according to claim 10

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further including an actuator to receive the cassette and operate the pump station, and

5 wherein the controller is coupled to the actuator.

12. A system according to claim 1

wherein the blood processing flow channel includes a blood component holding container to hold the blood component, and

5 wherein, in the collection mode, the pump station is operated to convey at least some of the blood component in the blood component holding container into the blood component collection flow channel.

13. A system according to claim 12

5 wherein the controller operates the pump station in a blood component return mode, during which the pump station is operated to convey at least some of the blood component in the blood component holding container into the donor flow channel for return to the donor.

14. A system according to claim 1

5 wherein the blood processing flow channel includes a donor blood holding container to hold donor blood prior to separation in the blood separation chamber, and

5 wherein, in the processing mode, the pump station is operated to convey blood in the donor flow channel into the donor blood holding container.

15. A system according to claim 14

5 further including a second pump station, independent of the first defined pump station, communicating with the donor blood holding container and the blood separation chamber and operating to convey donor blood from the donor blood holding container in the blood separation chamber for separation in the blood component.

16. A system according to claim 1

wherein the pump station comprises first and second fluid pressure actuated pump stations, and

5 a fluid pressure actuator operating to
selectively apply fluid pressure pump strokes in tandem to
the first and second pump stations to convey fluid from a
source to a destination,

10 wherein, during at least one of the multiple
modes, the controller switches between a first flow state,
in which the pump strokes draw a fluid volume into the first
pump station from the source and expel a fluid volume from
the second pump station to the destination, and a second flow
state, in which the pump strokes draw a fluid volume into the
15 second pump station from the source and expel a fluid volume
from the first pump station to the destination, the control
function operating to synchronize the pump strokes so that
fluid flow from the source is essentially continuous while
fluid flow to the destination is pulsatile.

17. A system according to claim 1
wherein the blood component comprises red blood
cells.

18. A system according to claim 1
wherein the blood component comprises plasma.

19. A blood processing system comprising
a donor flow channel to convey fluid to and from
a donor,

5 a blood processing flow channel including a blood
separation chamber to separate red blood cells from donor
whole blood,

a blood component collection flow channel
including a red blood cell collection container and an
in-line filter to remove leukocytes from the red blood cells
10 before entering the red blood cell collection container,

a pump station communicating with the donor flow
channel, the blood processing flow channel, and the blood
component collection flow channel, and

15 a controller to operate the pump station in
multiple modes, including a processing mode, during which the

20 pump station is operated to convey whole blood in the donor
flow channel into the blood processing flow channel for
separation of the red blood cells in the blood separation
chamber, and a collection mode, during which the pump station
is operated to convey at least some of the red blood cells
in the blood processing flow channel into the blood component
collection flow channel for on-line removal of leukocytes and
collection in the red blood cell collection container.

20. A system according to claim 19
wherein the controller operates the pump station
in a blood component return mode, during which the pump
station is operated to convey at least some of the red blood
5 cells in the blood processing flow channel into the donor
flow channel for return to the donor.

21. A system according to claim 19
further including a utility flow channel
including a processing fluid container,
5 wherein the pump station communicates with the
utility flow channel, and

wherein the controller operates the pump station
during the blood component return mode to convey processing
fluid in the utility flow channel into the donor flow channel
for mixing with the red blood cells returned to the donor.

22. A system according to claim 21
wherein the processing fluid includes saline.

23. A system according to claim 19
further including a utility flow channel
including a processing fluid container,
5 wherein the pump station communicates with the
utility flow channel, and

wherein the controller operates the pump station
in a processing fluid transfer mode, during which the pump
station is operated to convey processing fluid in the utility
flow channel into the blood processing flow channel for
10 mixing with the red blood cells.

24. A system according to claim 23
wherein the processing fluid includes a red blood
cell additive.

25. A system according to claim 19
wherein the pump station includes a fluid
pressure actuated pump and an actuator to apply fluid
pressure to the pump, and

5 wherein the controller is coupled to the
actuator.

26. A system according to claim 19
wherein the pump station, the donor flow channel,
the blood processing flow channel, and the blood component
collection flow channel communicate within a cassette.

27. A system according to claim 26
further including an actuator to receive the
cassette and operate the pump station, and

5 wherein the controller is coupled to the
actuator.

28. A system according to claim 19
wherein the pump station comprises first and
second fluid pressure actuated pump stations, and
a fluid pressure actuator operating to
5 selectively apply fluid pressure pump strokes in tandem to
the first and second pump stations to convey fluid from a
source to a destination,

wherein, during at least one of the multiple
modes, the controller switches between a first flow state,
10 in which the pump strokes draw a fluid volume into the first
pump station from the source and expel a fluid volume from
the second pump station to the destination, and a second flow
state, in which the pump strokes draw a fluid volume into the
second pump station from the source and expel a fluid volume
15 from the first pump station to the destination, the control
function operating to synchronize the pump strokes so that
fluid flow from the source is essentially continuous while

fluid flow to the destination is pulsatile.

29. A blood processing method comprising the steps of

coupling a multi-function pump station to a donor flow channel to convey fluid to and from a donor, a blood processing flow channel including a blood separation chamber to separate a blood component from donor blood, and a blood component collection flow channel including a blood component collection container, and

operating the pump station in multiple modes, including a processing mode, during which the pump station is operated to convey blood in the donor flow channel into the blood processing flow channel for separation of the blood component in the blood separation chamber, and a collection mode, during which the pump station is operated to convey at least some of the blood component in the blood processing flow channel into the blood component collection flow channel for collection in the blood component collection container.

30. A method according to claim 29

wherein, in operating the pump station in the collection mode, the blood component is passed through an in-line filter in the blood component collection flow channel to remove undesired materials from the blood component before entering the blood component collection container.

31. A method according to claim 30 wherein the filter removes leukocytes.

32. A method according to claim 29

further including operating the pump station in a blood component return mode, during which the pump station is operated to convey at least some of the blood component in the blood processing flow channel into the donor flow channel for return to the donor.

33. A method according to claim 29

further including coupling the pump station to a

utility flow channel including a processing fluid container,
operating the pump station during the blood
5 component return mode to convey processing fluid in the
utility flow channel into the donor flow channel for mixing
with the blood component returned to the donor.

34. A method according to claim 33
wherein the processing fluid includes saline.

35. A method according to claim 29
further including coupling the pump station to a
utility flow channel including a processing fluid container,
and

5 operating the pump station in a processing fluid
transfer mode, during which the pump station is operated to
convey processing fluid in the utility flow channel into the
blood processing flow channel for mixing with the blood
component.

36. A method according to claim 35
wherein the processing fluid includes a blood
component additive.

37. A method according to claim 29
wherein the blood component comprises red blood
cells.

38. A method according to claim 29
wherein the blood component comprises plasma.

39. A method according to claim 29
wherein the pump station comprises first and
second fluid pressure actuated pump stations, and
a fluid pressure actuator operating to
5 selectively apply fluid pressure pump strokes in tandem to
the first and second pump stations to convey fluid from a
source to a destination,

wherein, during at least one of the multiple
modes, operation of the pump station is switched between a
10 first flow state, in which the pump strokes draw a fluid
volume into the first pump station from the source and expel

15 a fluid volume from the second pump station to the destination, and a second flow state, in which the pump strokes draw a fluid volume into the second pump station from the source and expel a fluid volume from the first pump station to the destination, the control function operating to synchronize the pump strokes so that fluid flow from the source is essentially continuous while fluid flow to the destination is pulsatile.

40. A red blood cell processing method comprising the steps of

5 coupling a multi-function pump station to a donor flow channel to convey fluid to and from a donor, a blood processing flow channel including a blood separation chamber to separate red blood cells from donor whole blood, and a blood component collection flow channel including a red blood cell collection container and an in-line filter to remove leukocytes from the red blood cells before entering the red blood cell collection container,

10 operating the pump station in multiple modes, including a processing mode, during which the pump station is operated to convey whole blood in the donor flow channel into the blood processing flow channel for separation of the red blood cells in the blood separation chamber, and a collection mode, during which the pump station is operated to convey at least some of the red blood cells in the blood processing flow channel into the blood component collection flow channel for on-line removal of leukocytes and collection in the red blood cell collection container.

15 41. A method according to claim 40 further including operating the pump station in a blood component return mode, during which the pump station is operated to convey at least some of the red blood cells in the blood processing flow channel into the donor flow channel for return to the donor.

42. A method according to claim 40

further including coupling the pump station to utility flow channel including a processing fluid container, and

5 operating the pump station during the blood component return mode to convey processing fluid in the utility flow channel into the donor flow channel for mixing with the red blood cells returned to the donor.

43. A method according to claim 42 wherein the processing fluid includes saline.

44. A method according to claim 40

further including coupling the pump station to a utility flow channel including a processing fluid container, and

5 operating the pump station in a processing fluid transfer mode, during which the pump station is operated to convey processing fluid in the utility flow channel into the blood processing flow channel for mixing with the red blood cells.

45. A method according to claim 44 wherein the processing fluid includes a red blood cell additive.

46. A method according to claim 40

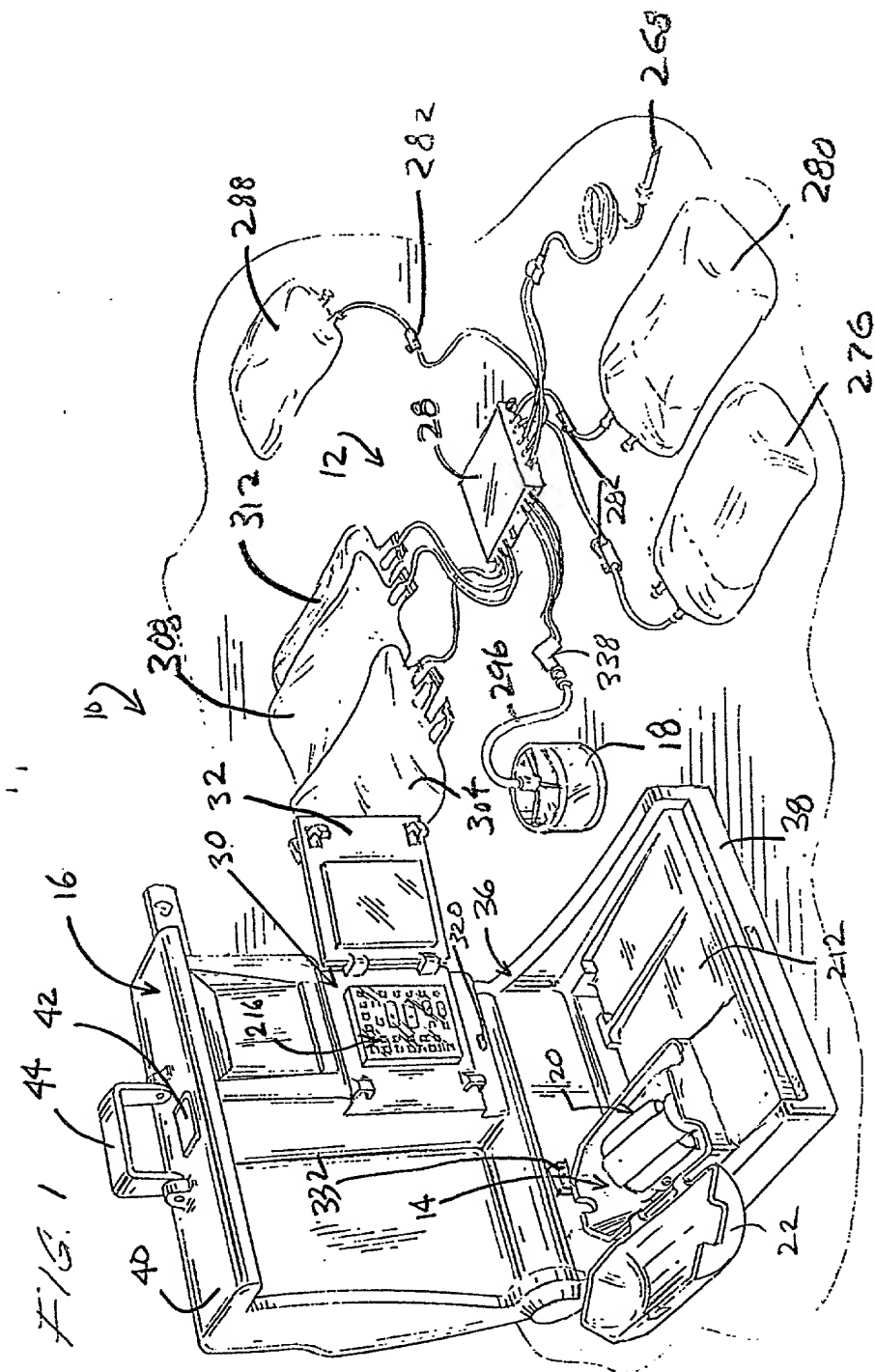
wherein the pump station comprises first and second fluid pressure actuated pump stations, and a fluid pressure actuator operating to
5 selectively apply fluid pressure pump strokes in tandem to the first and second pump stations to convey fluid from a source to a destination, and

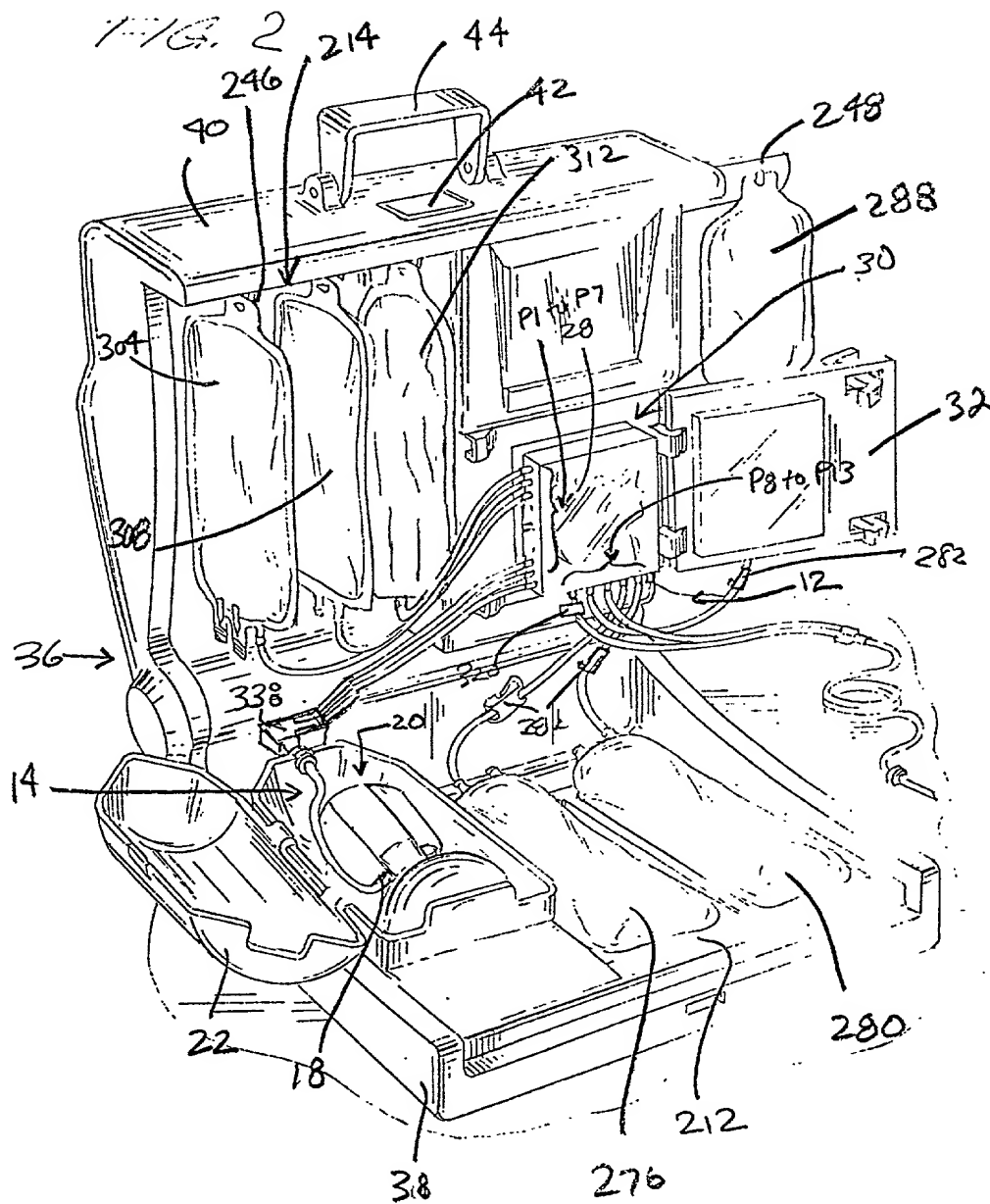
wherein, during at least one of the multiple modes, operation of the pump station is switched between a
10 first flow state, in which the pump strokes draw a fluid volume into the first pump station from the source and expel a fluid volume from the second pump station to the destination, and a second flow state, in which the pump strokes draw a fluid volume into the second pump station from

[illegible]

5

10





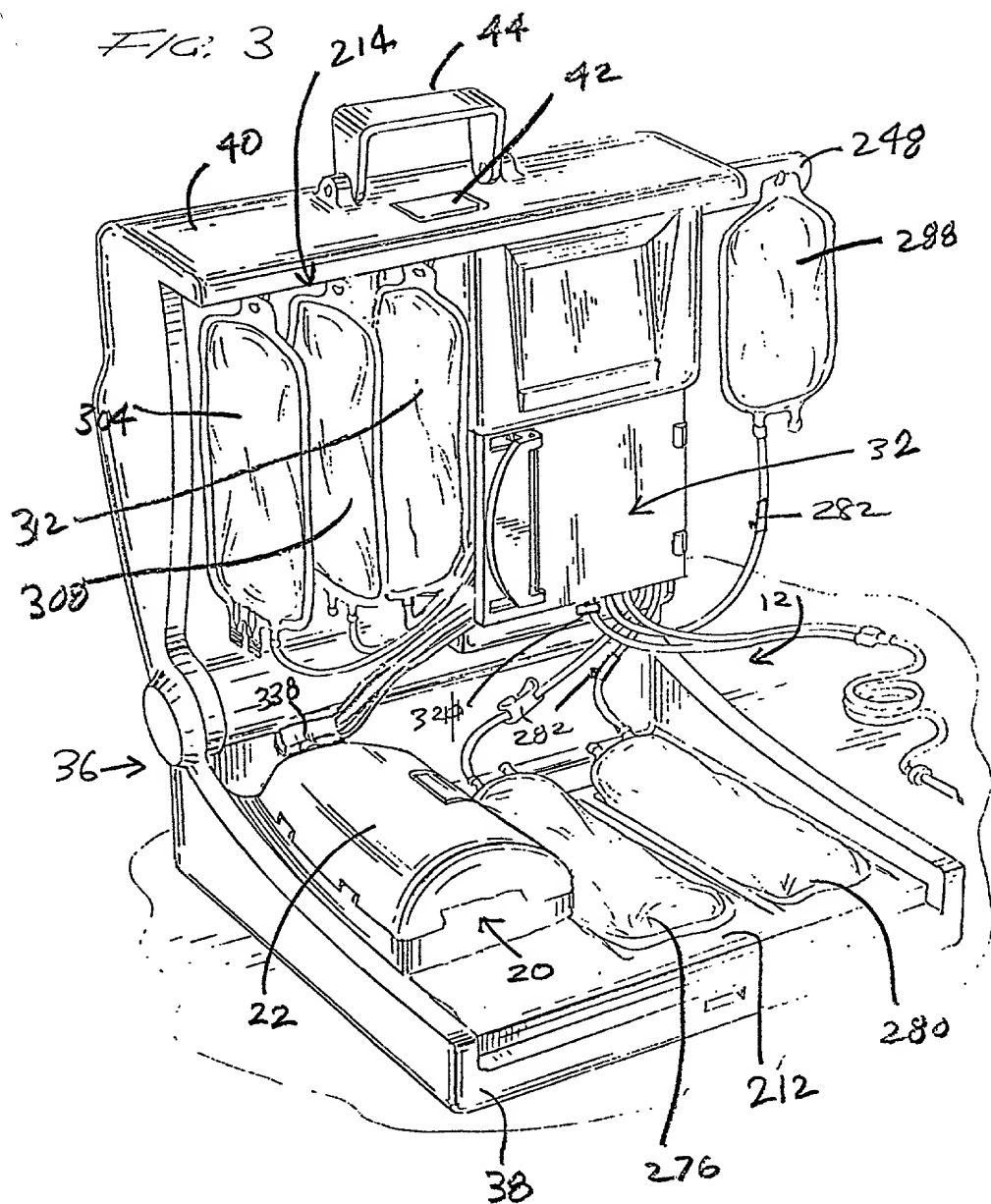


Fig. 4

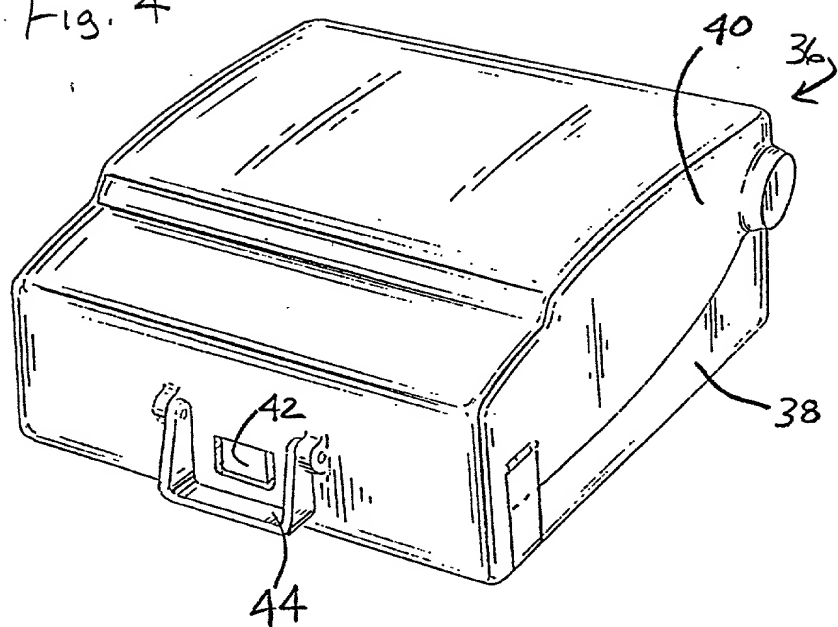
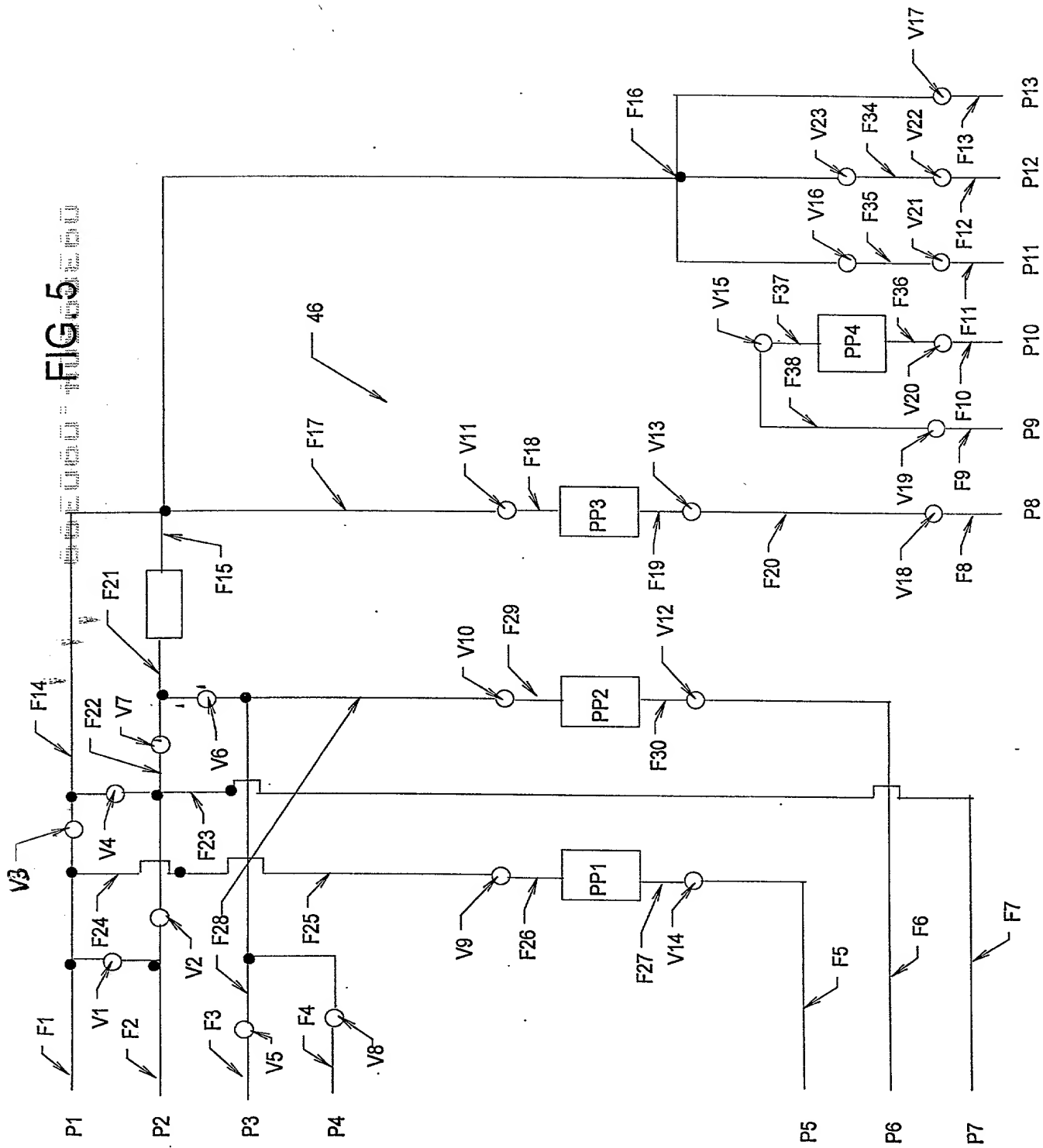
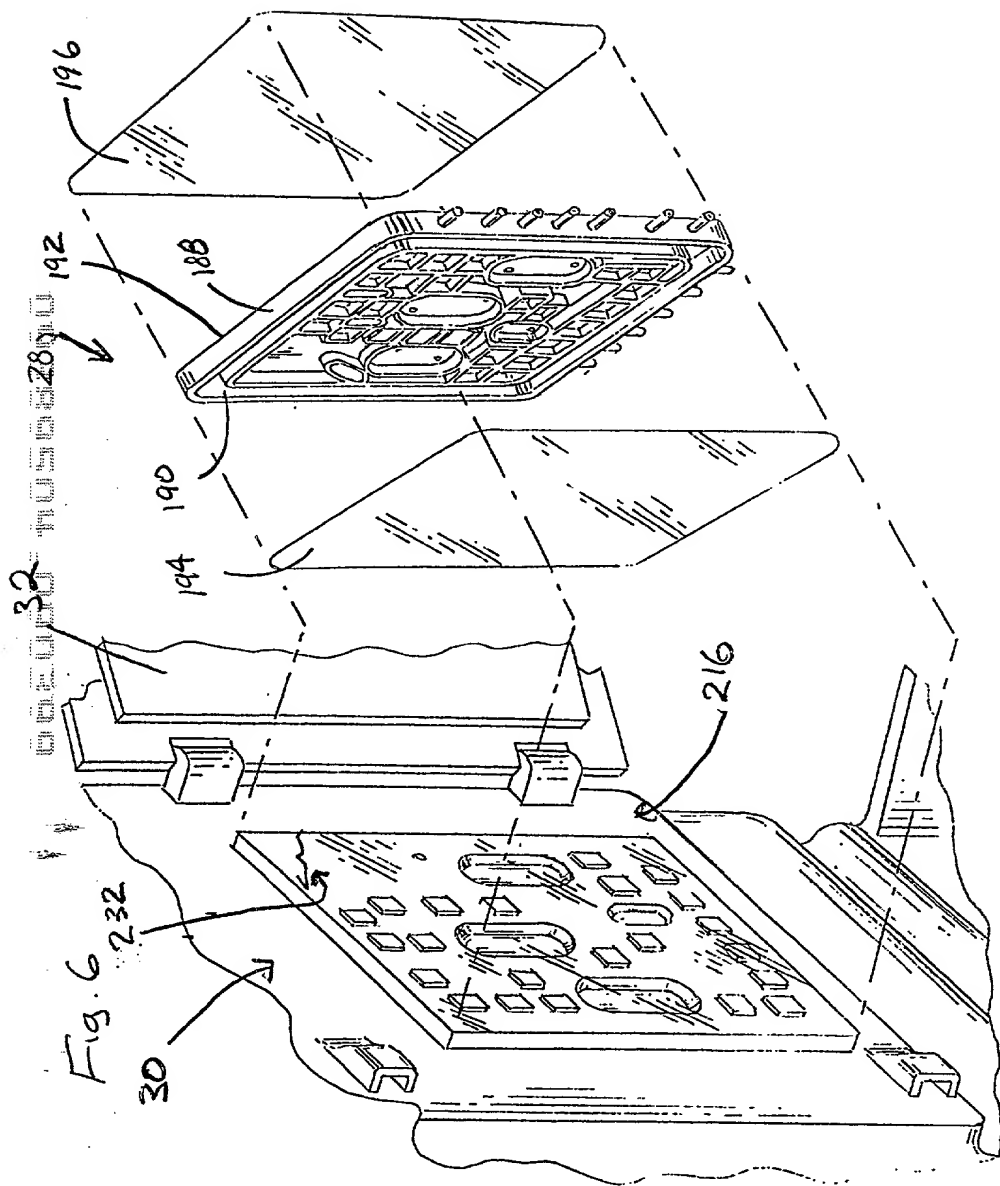


FIG. 5





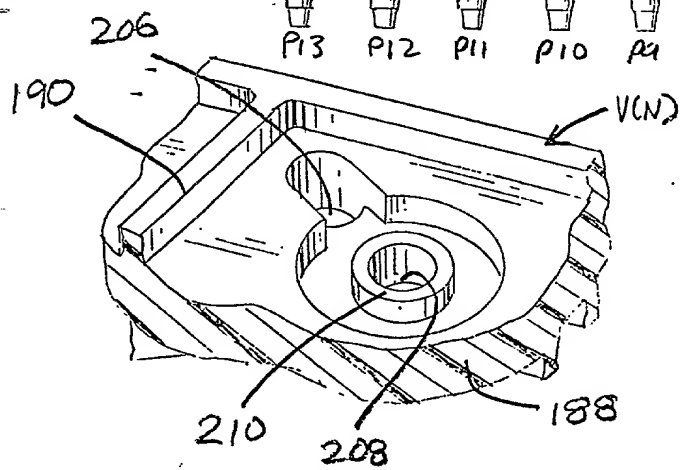
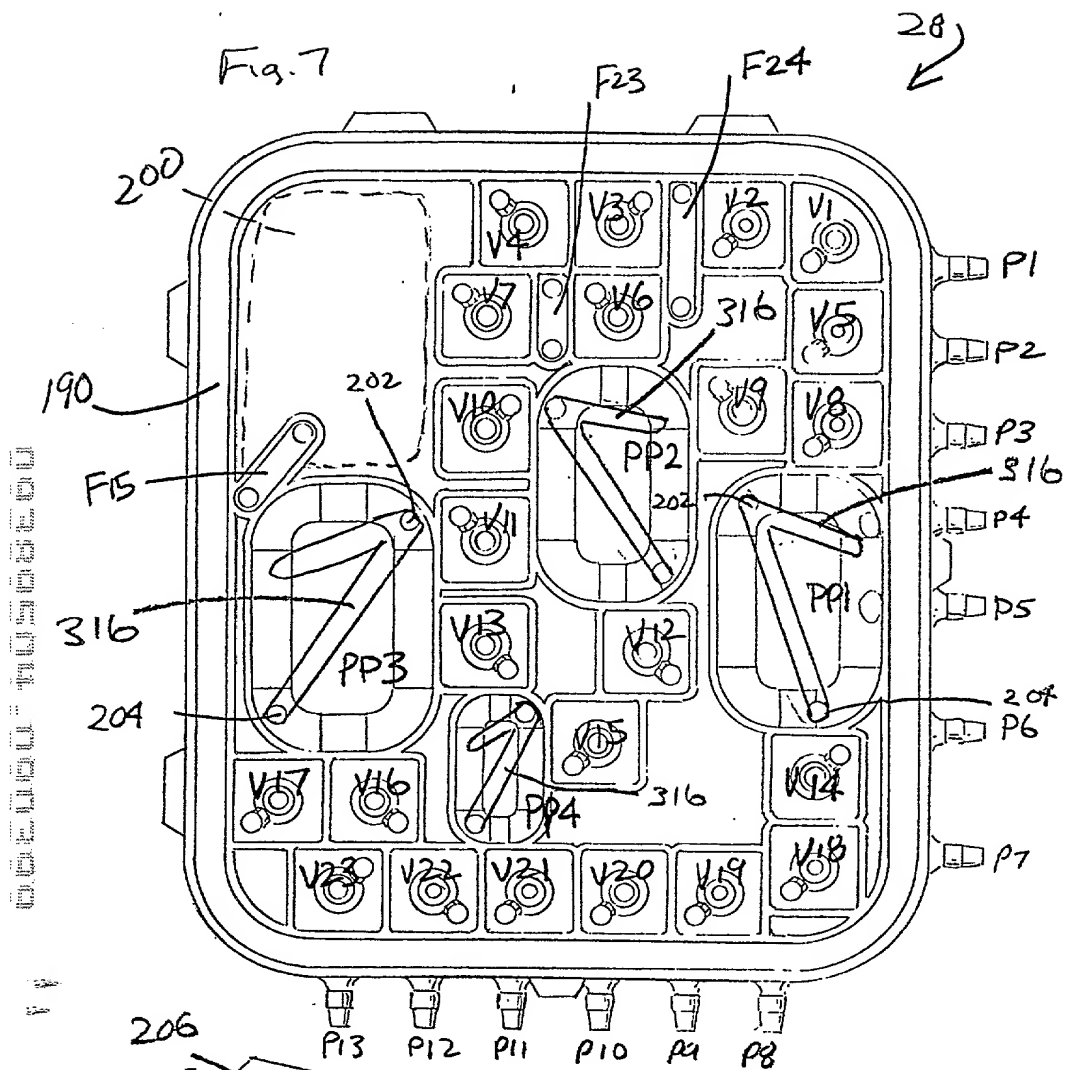


Fig. 9

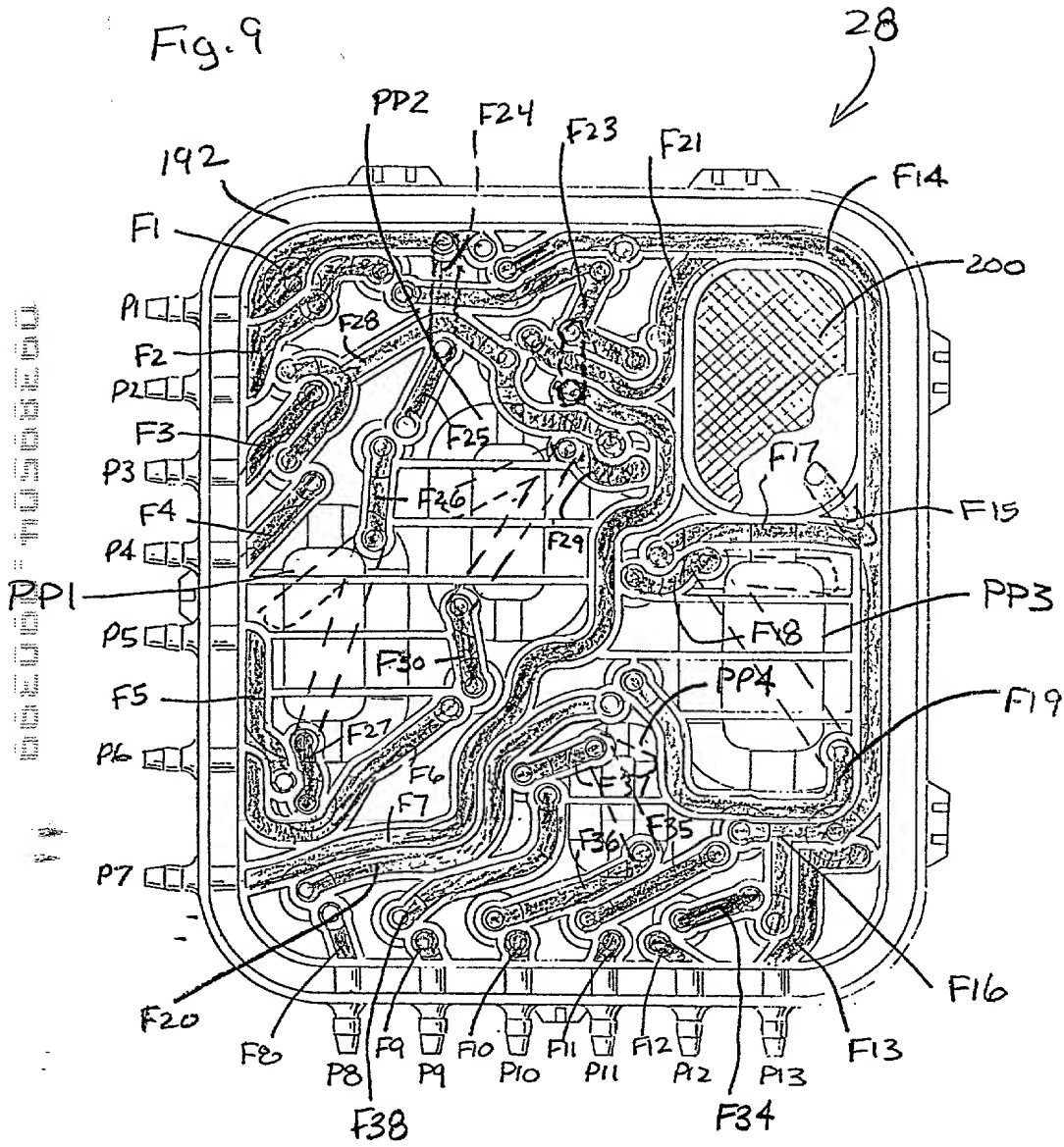
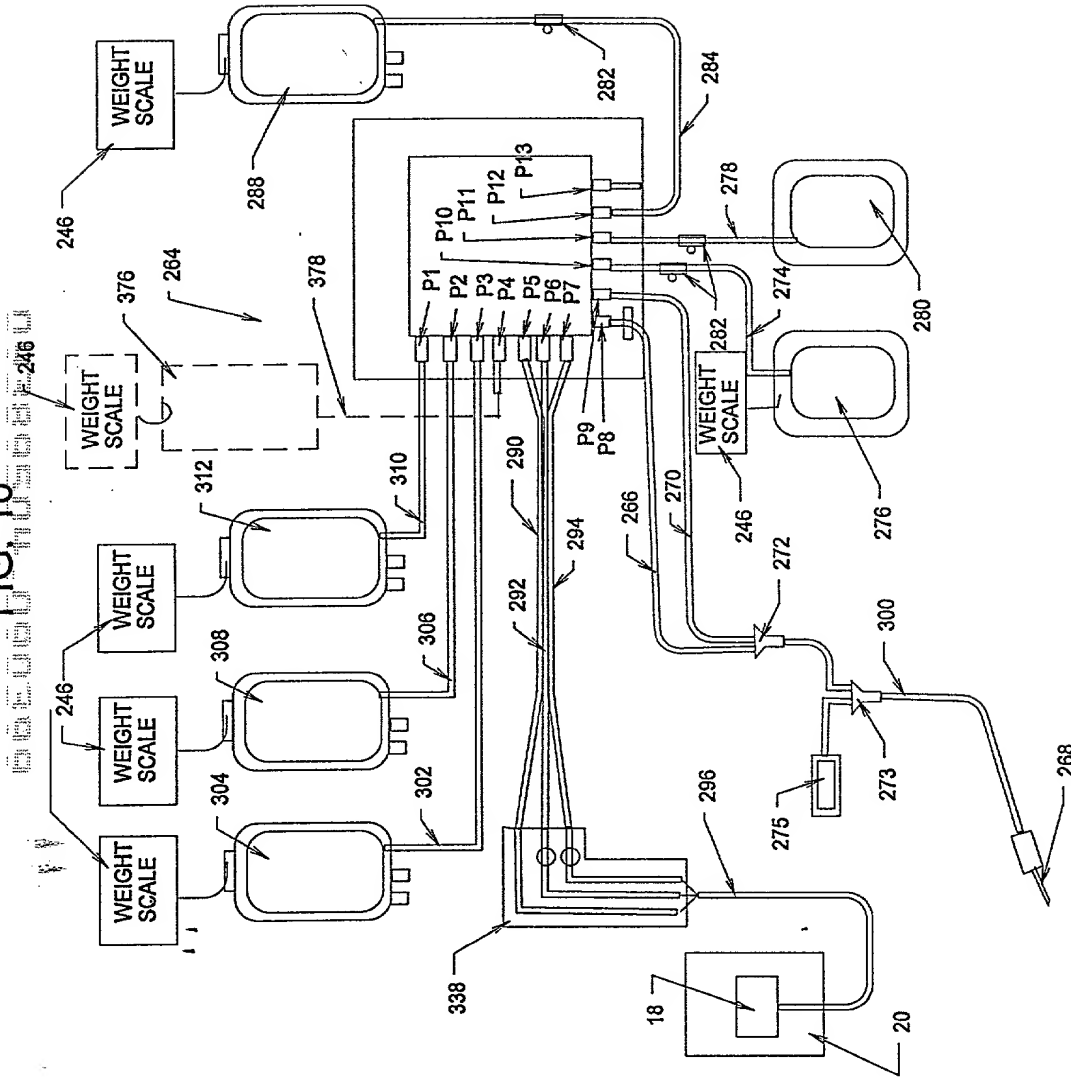
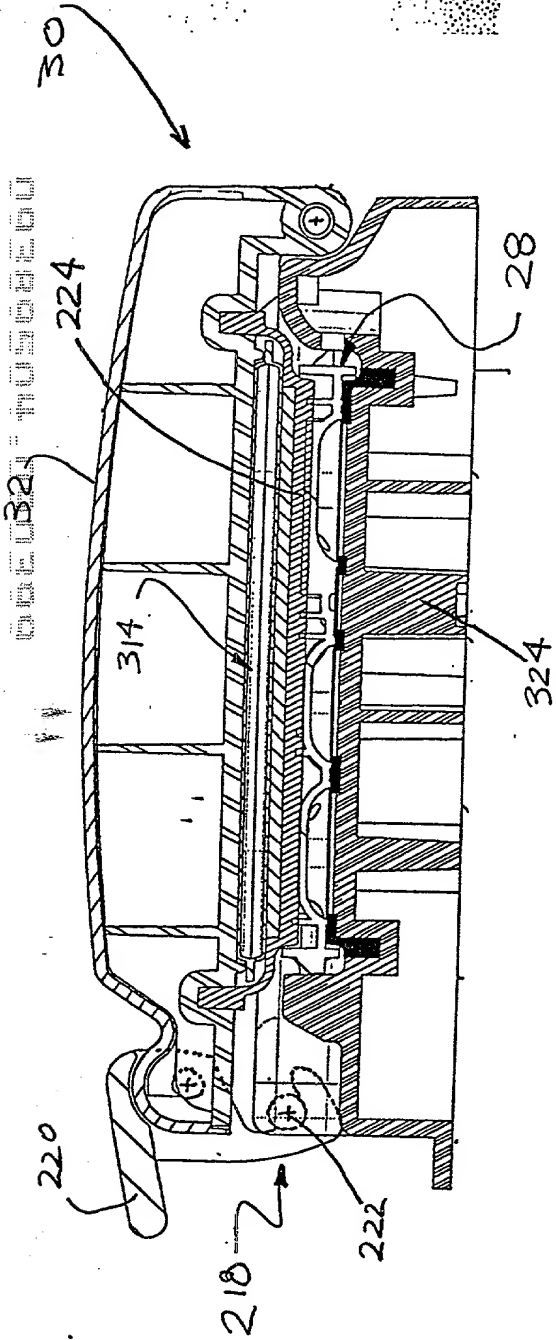


FIG. 10





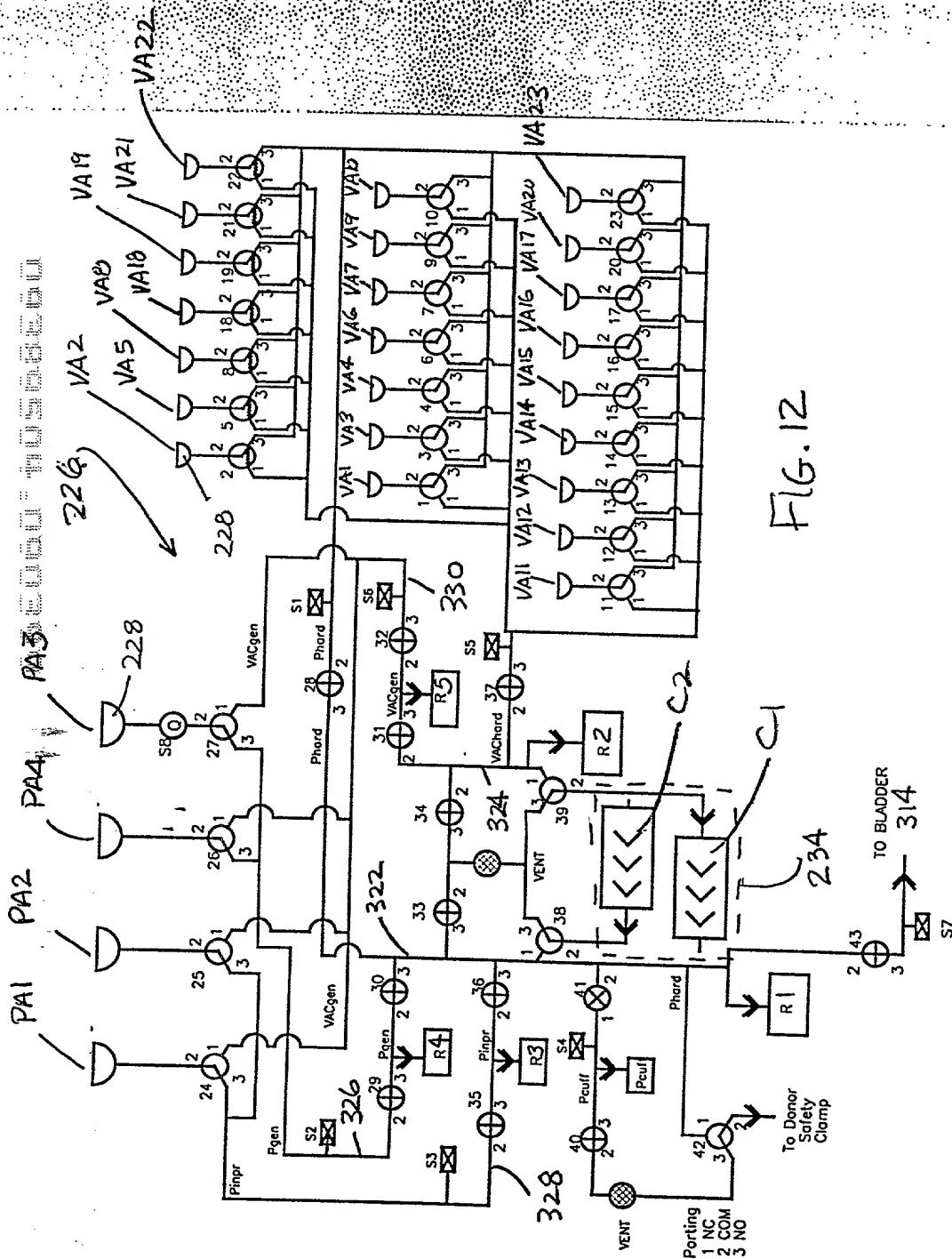


FIG. 13

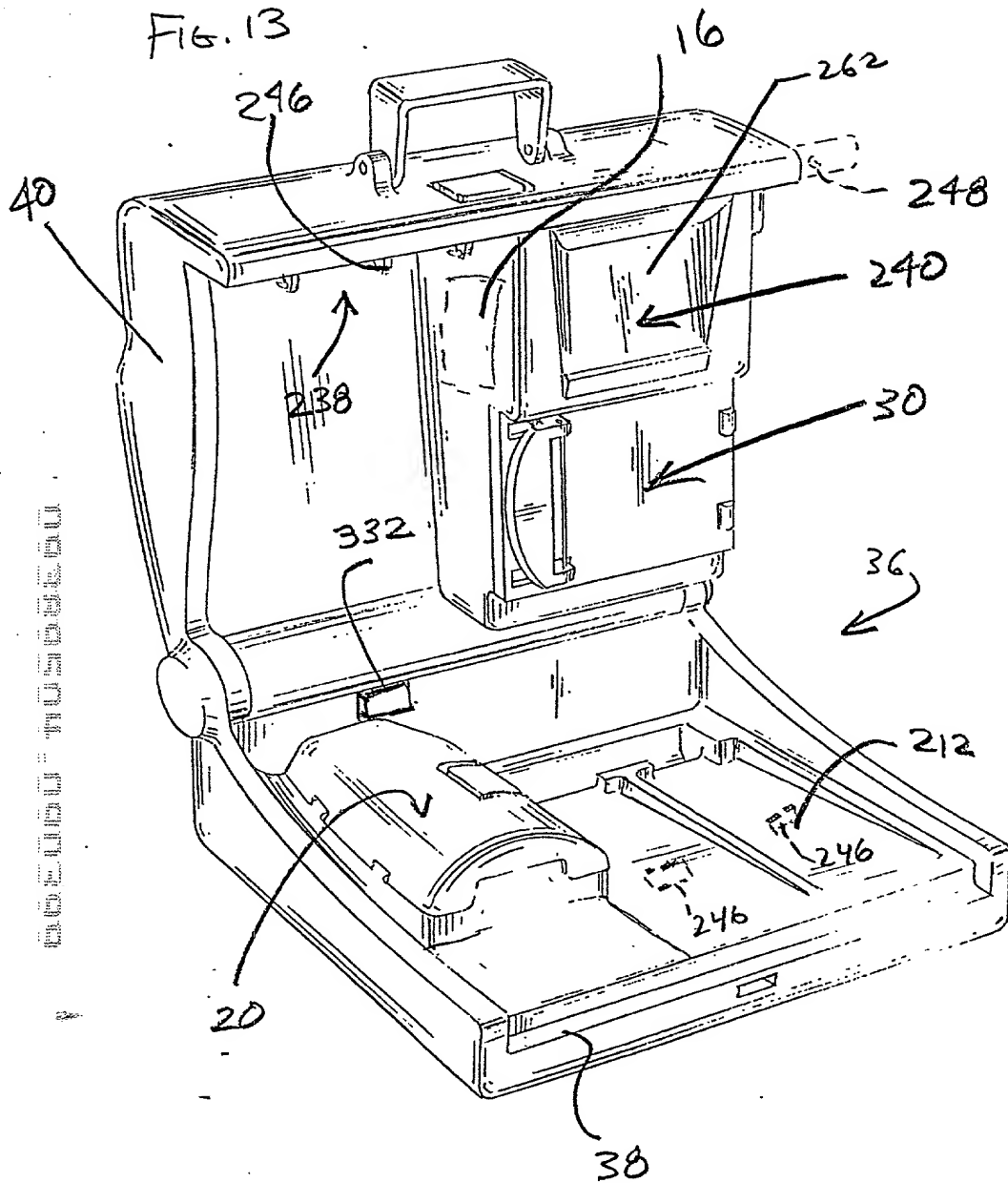
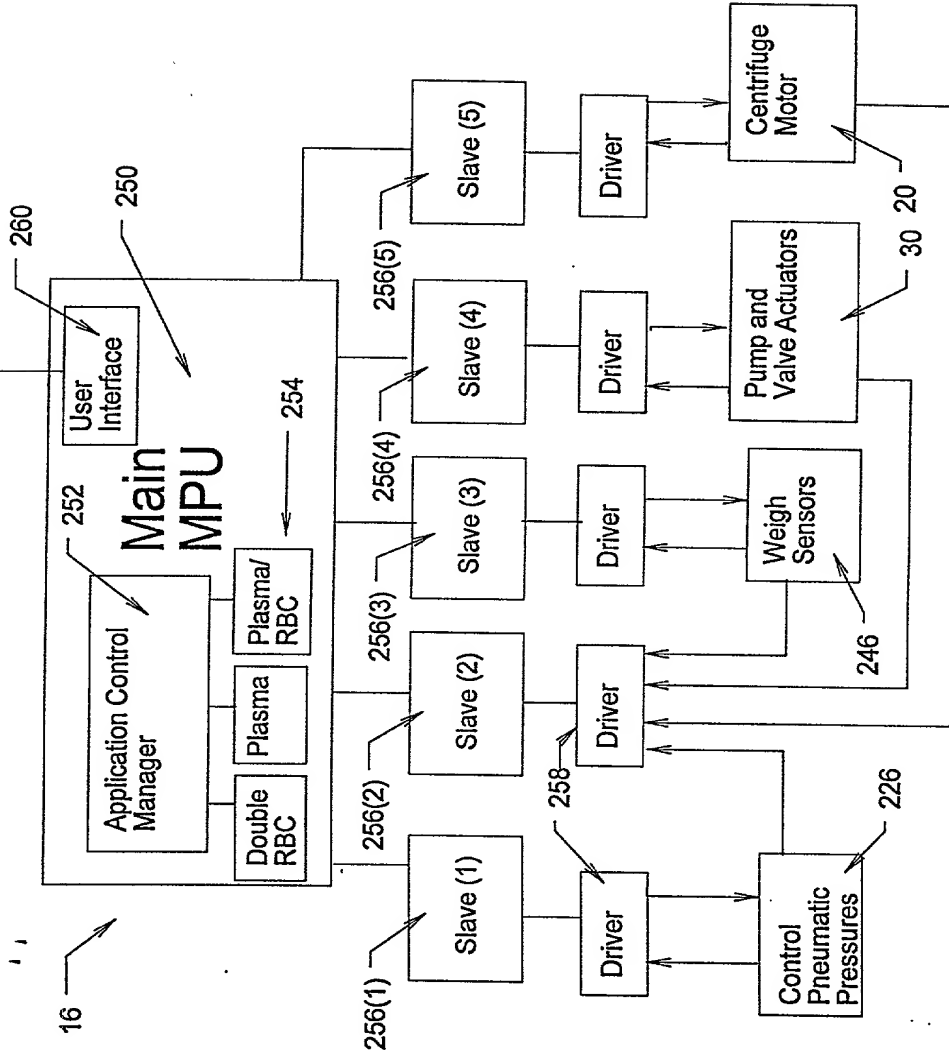


FIG. 14



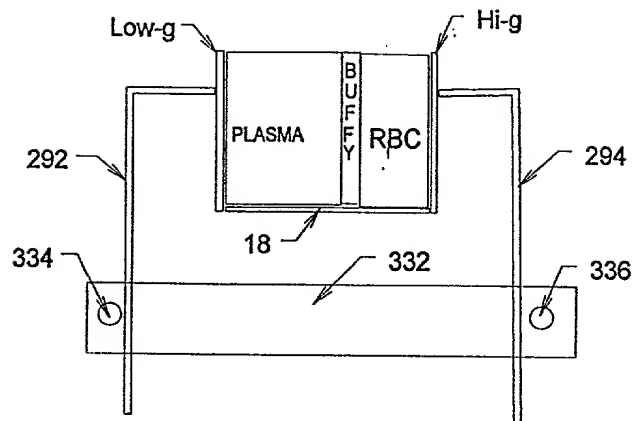


FIG. 15A

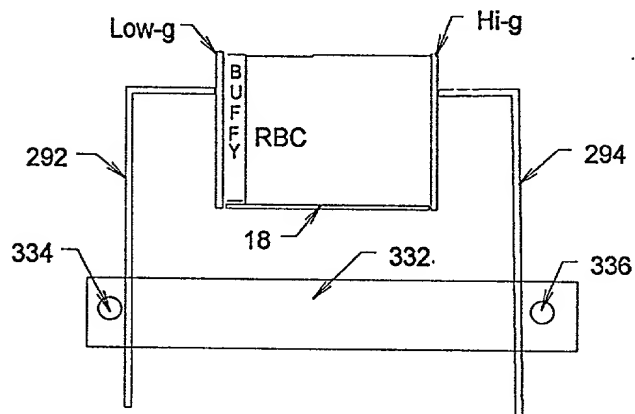


FIG. 15B

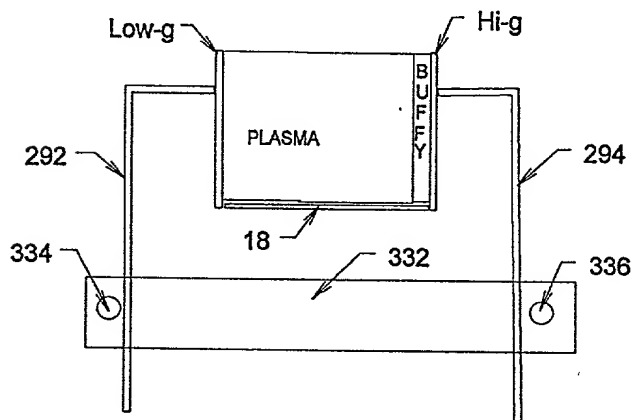
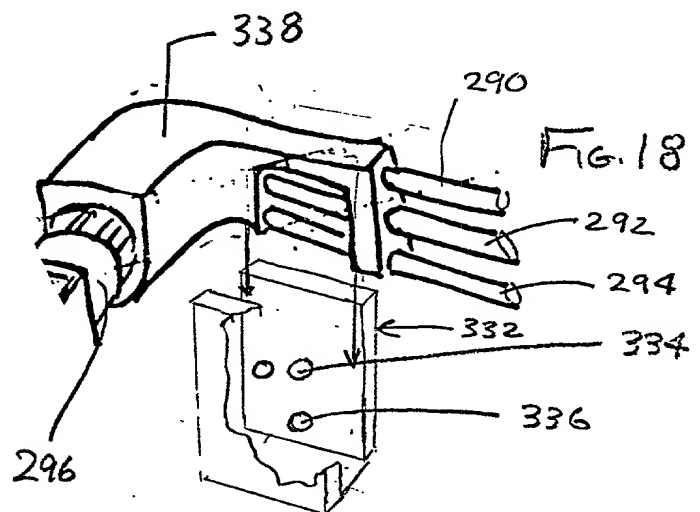
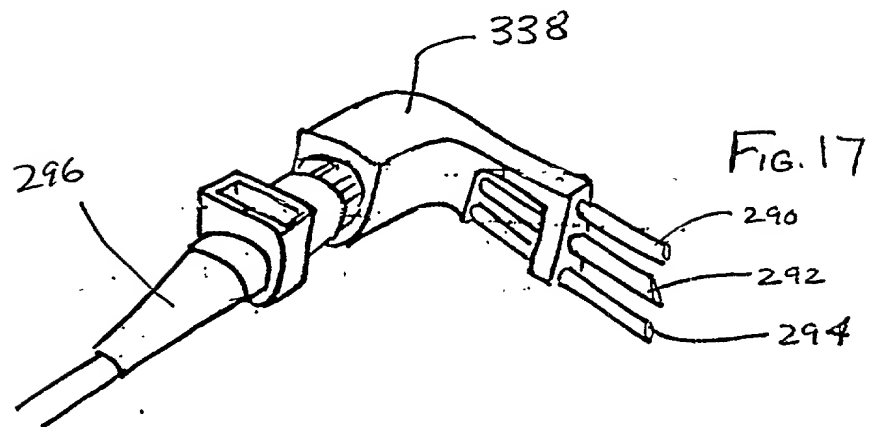
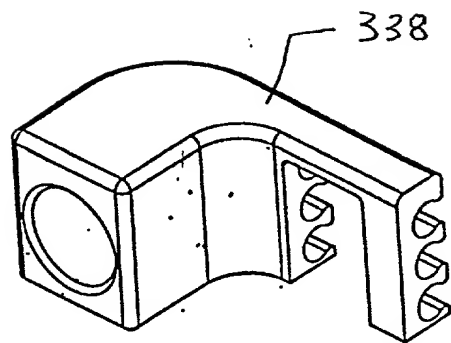


FIG. 15C



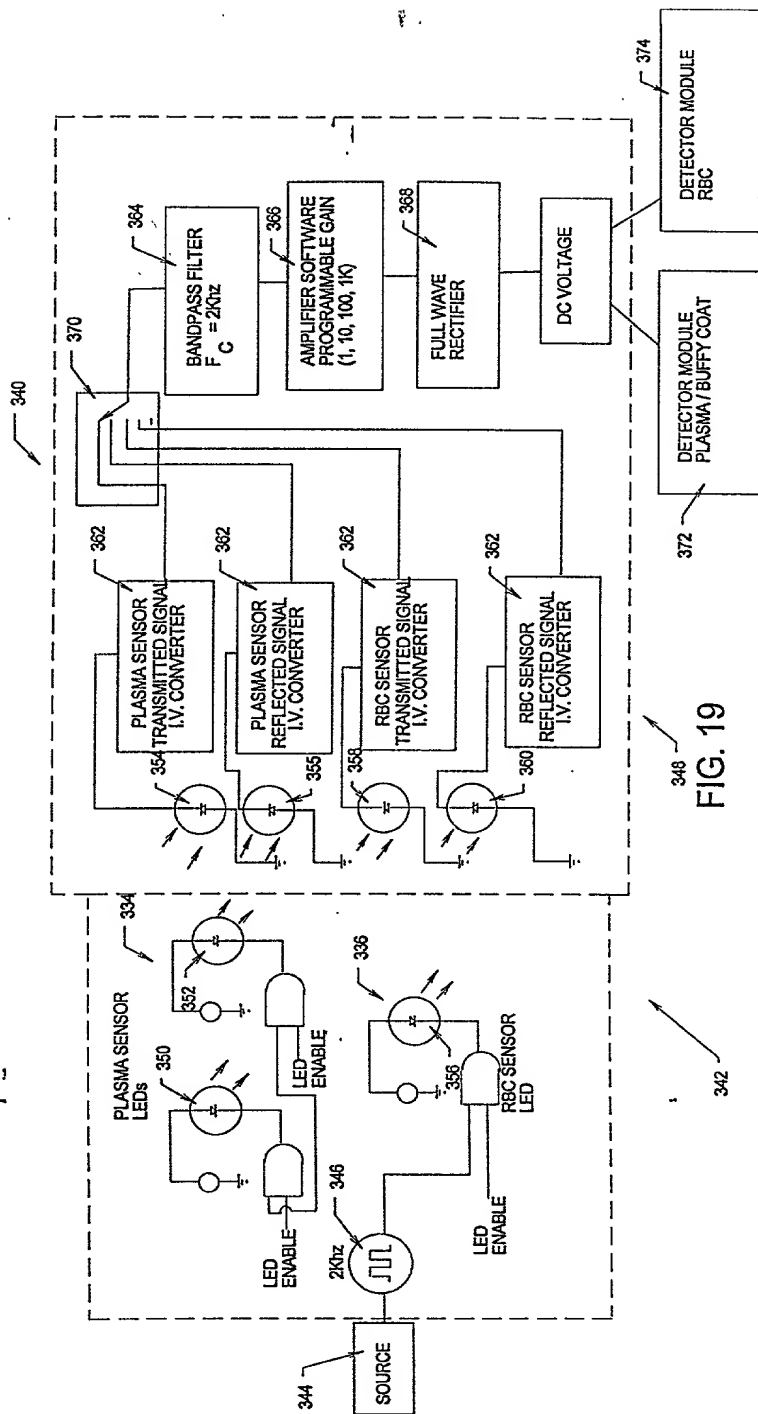


FIG. 19

FIG. 20

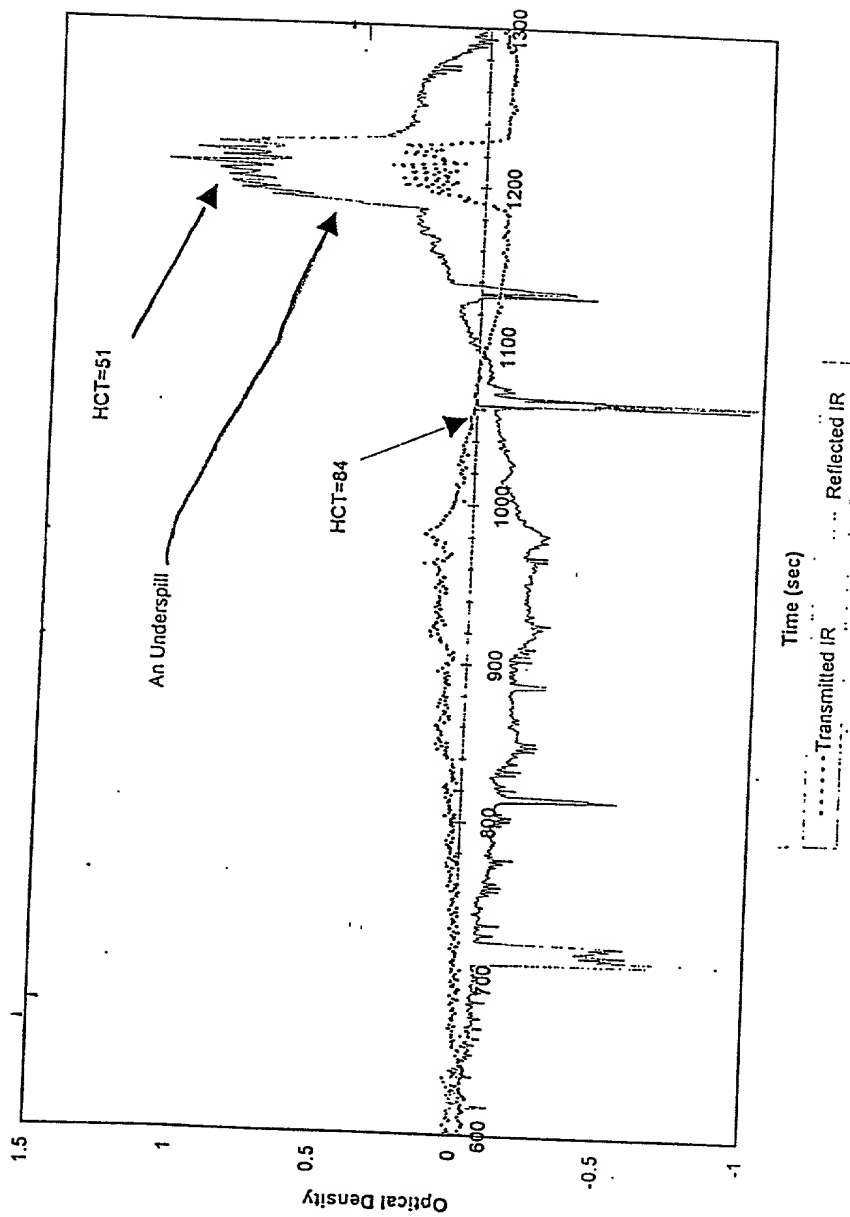


FIG. 21

FIG. 21

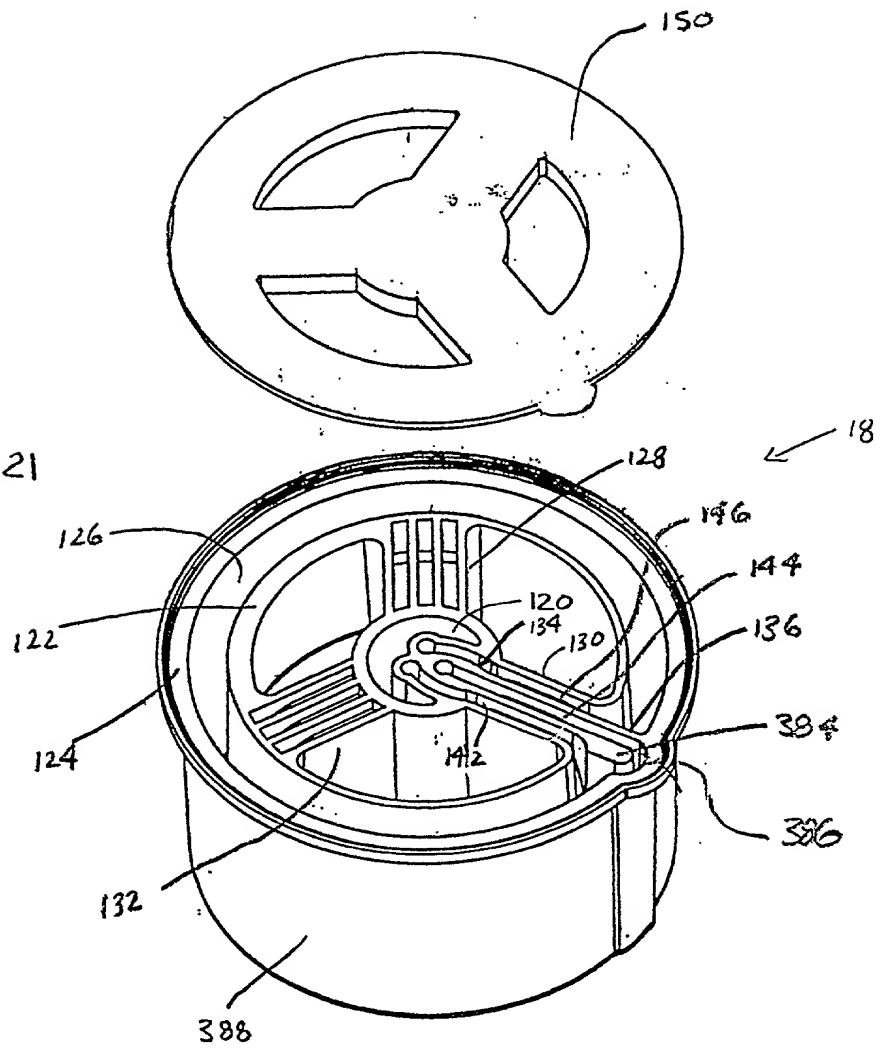


FIG. 22

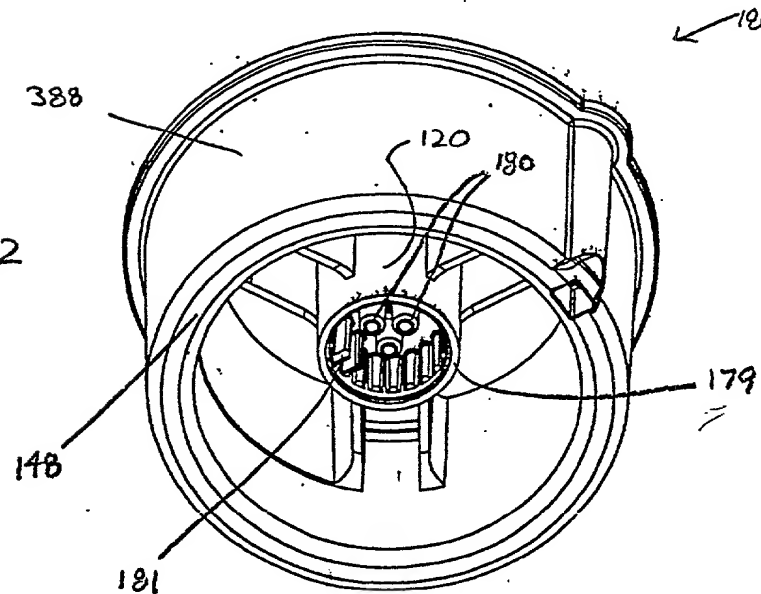


Fig. 23

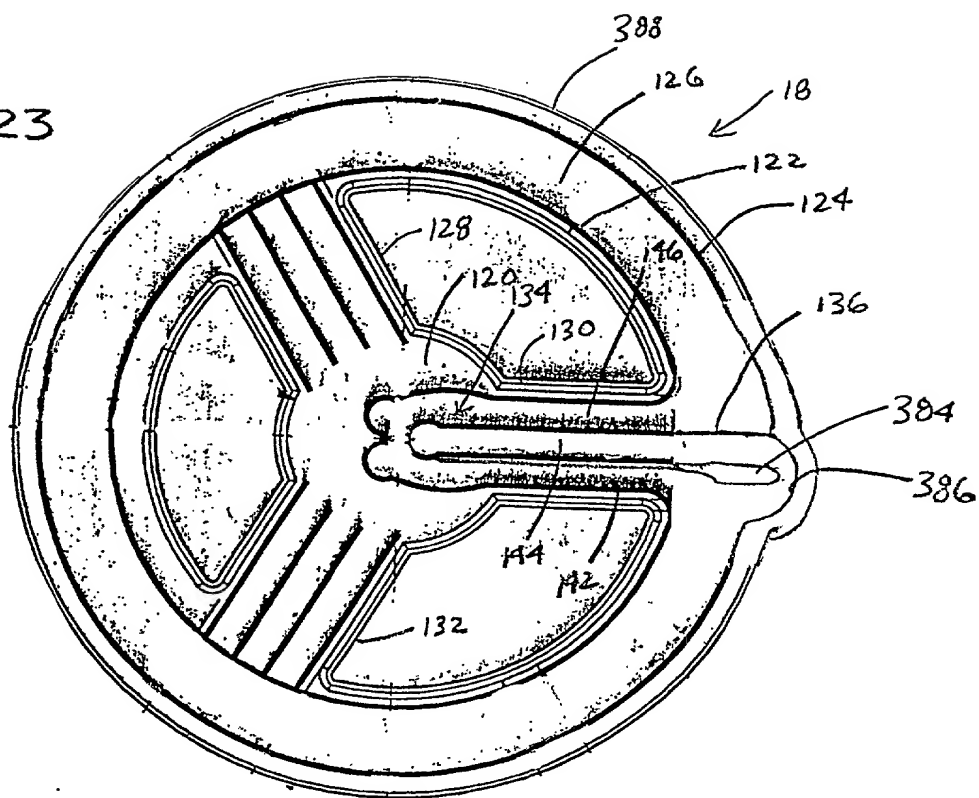
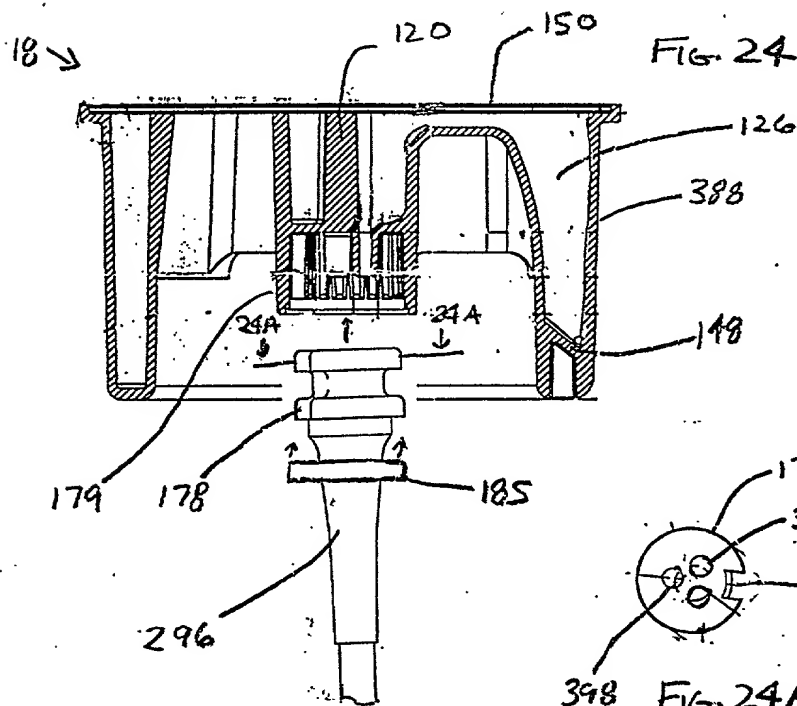


FIG. 24



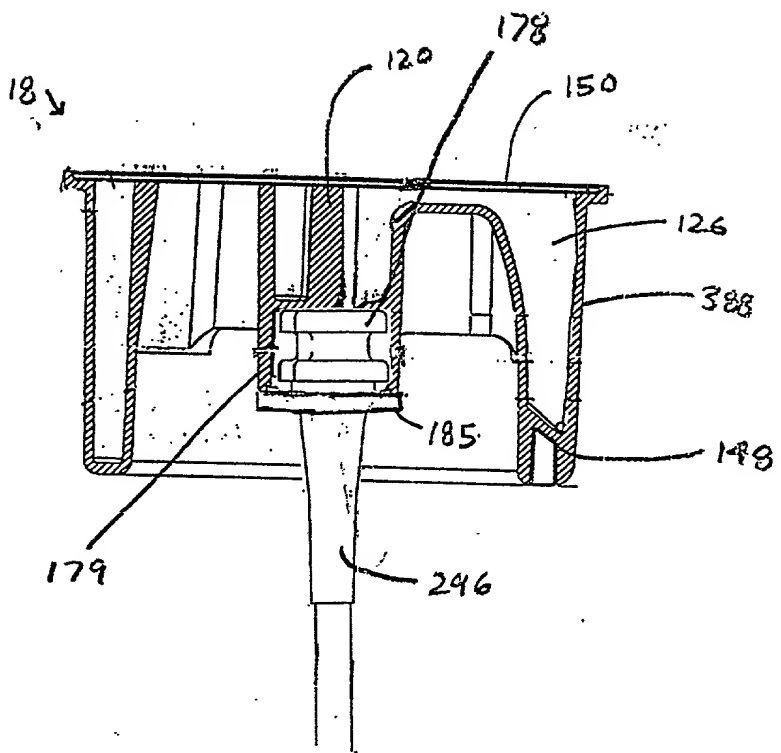
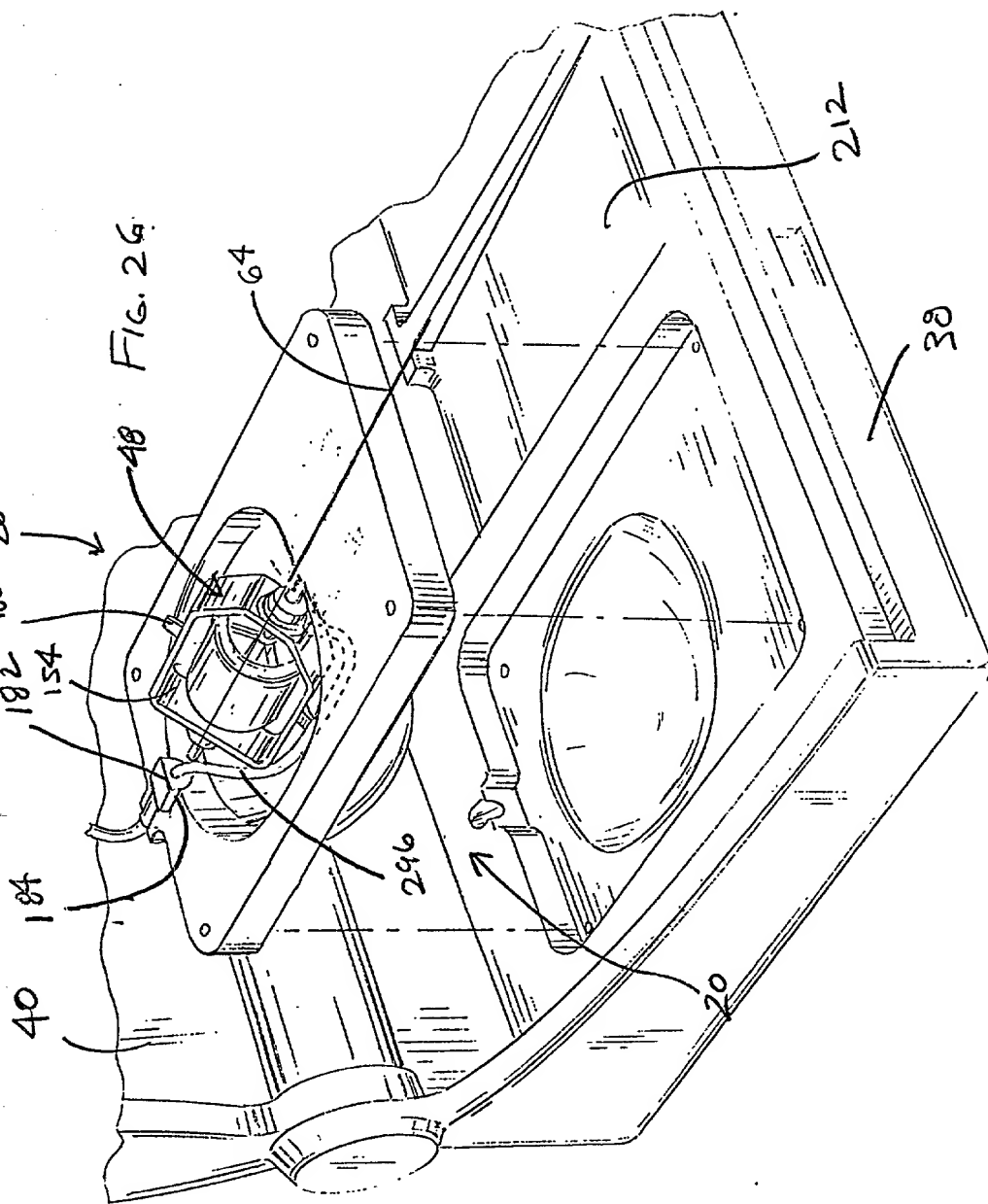
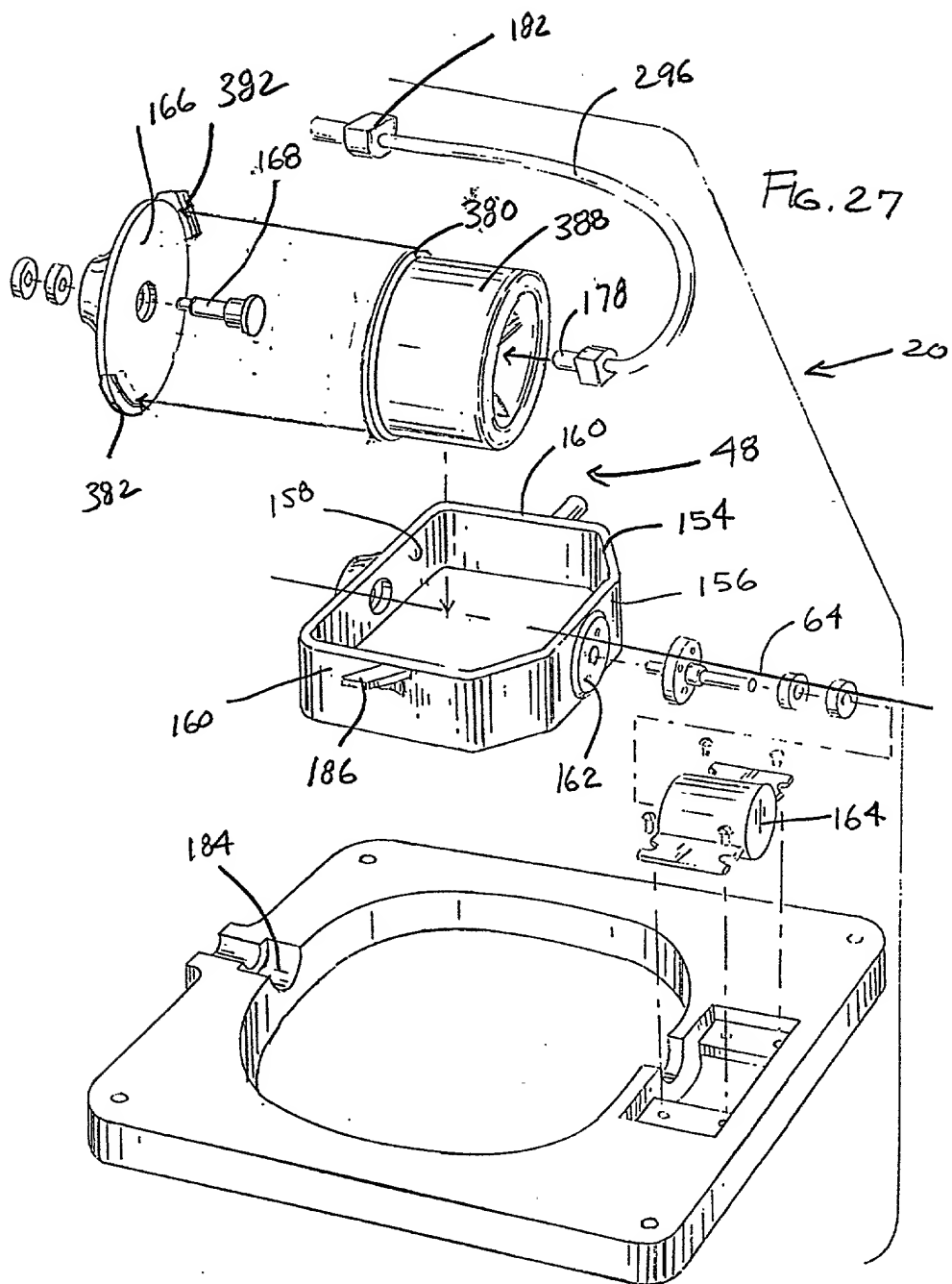


FIG. 25



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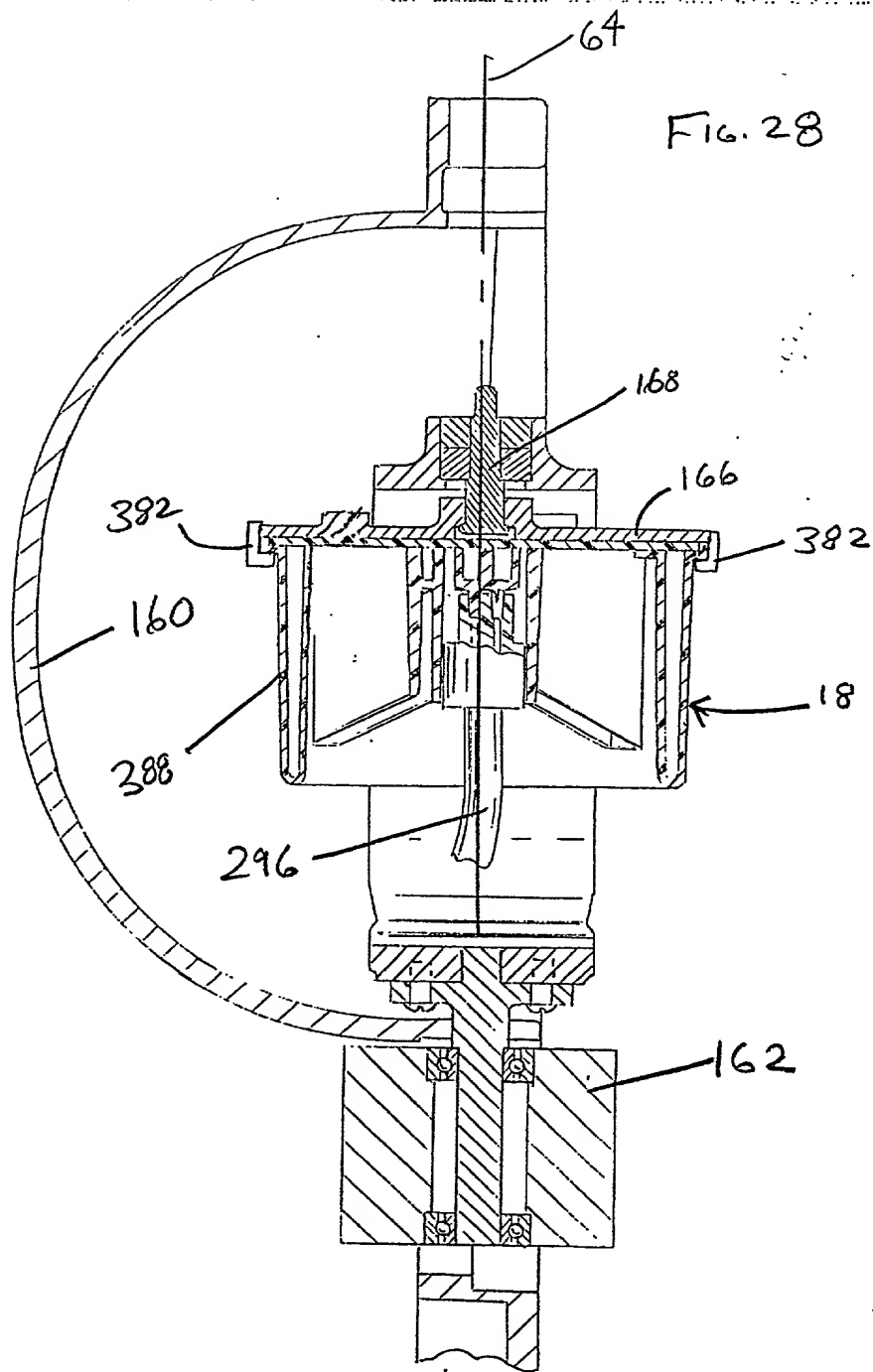
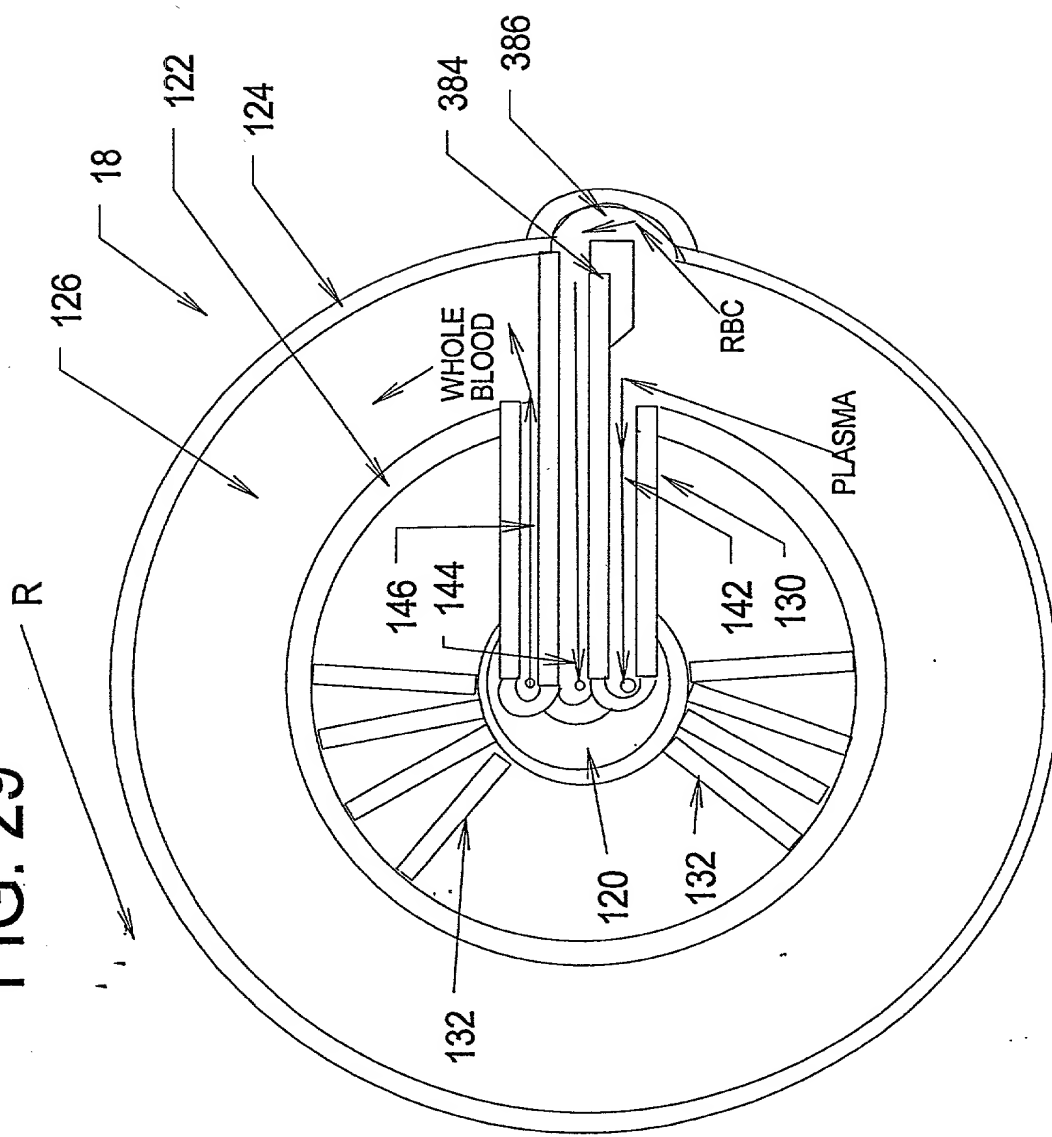
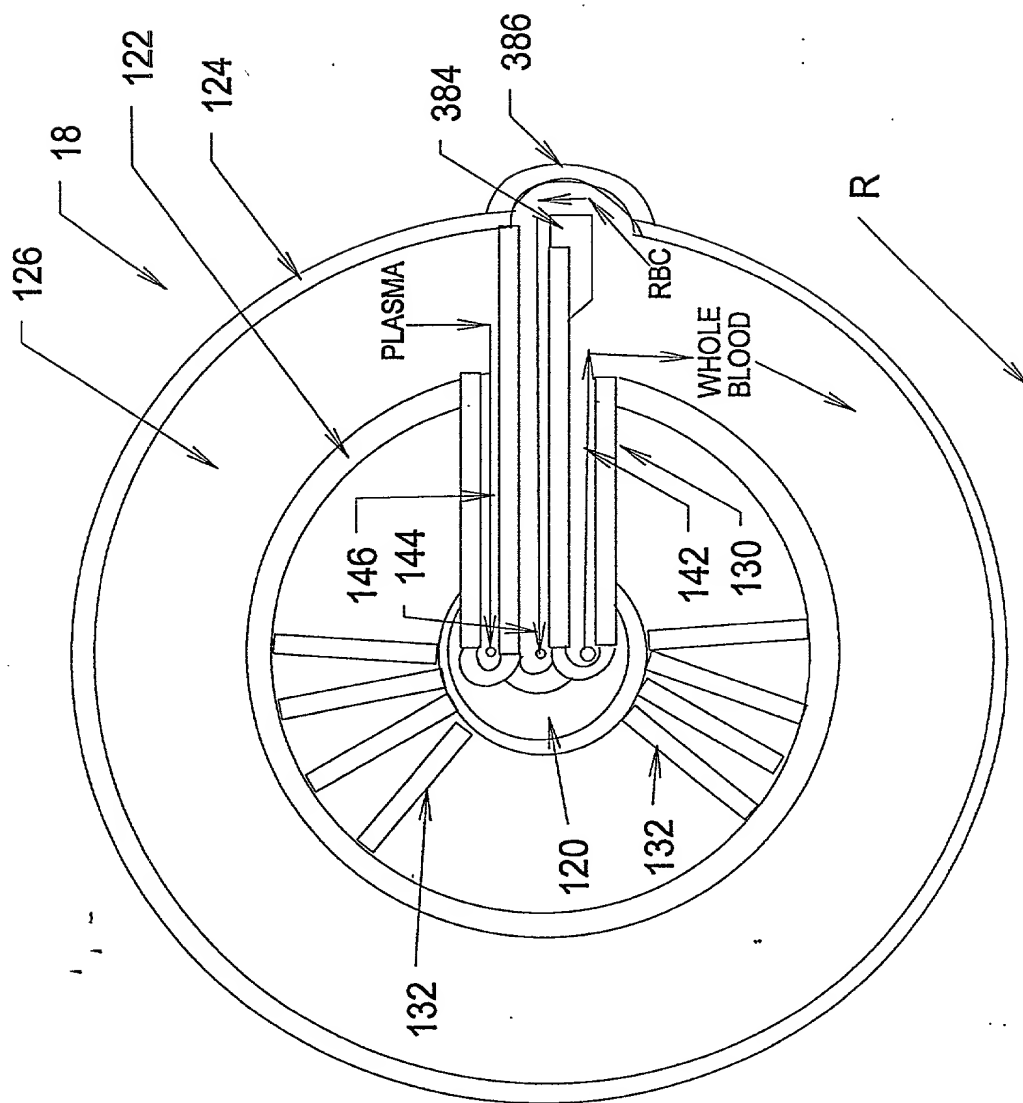


FIG. 29



[illegible]

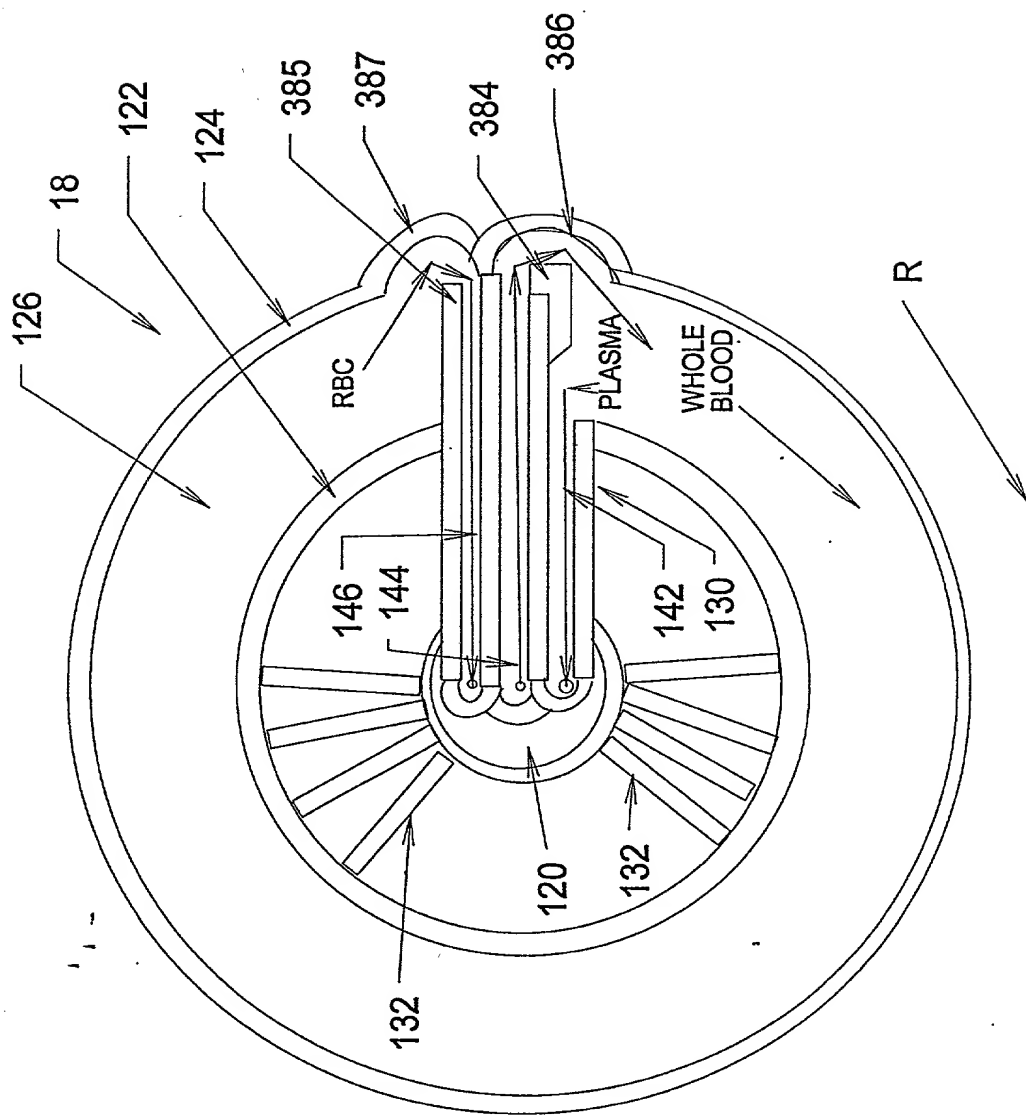


FIG. 32

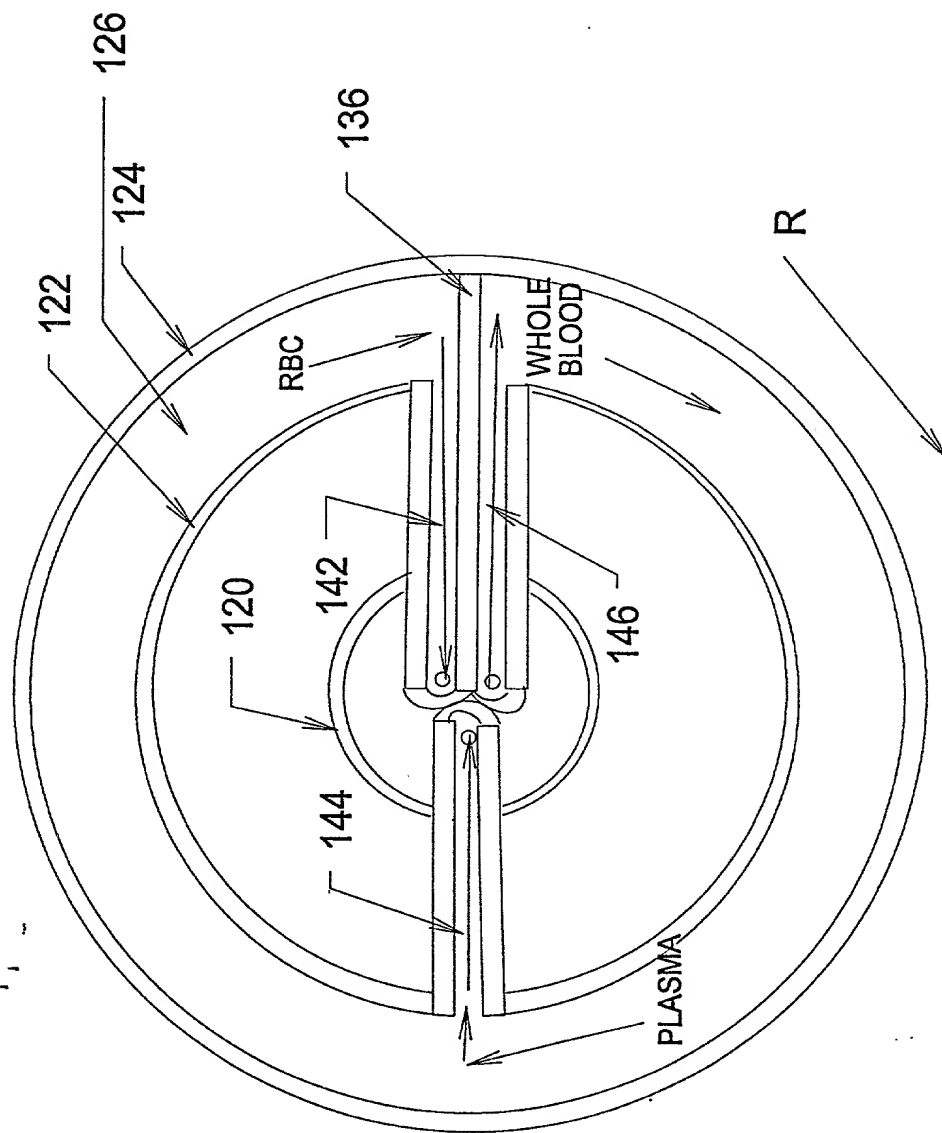
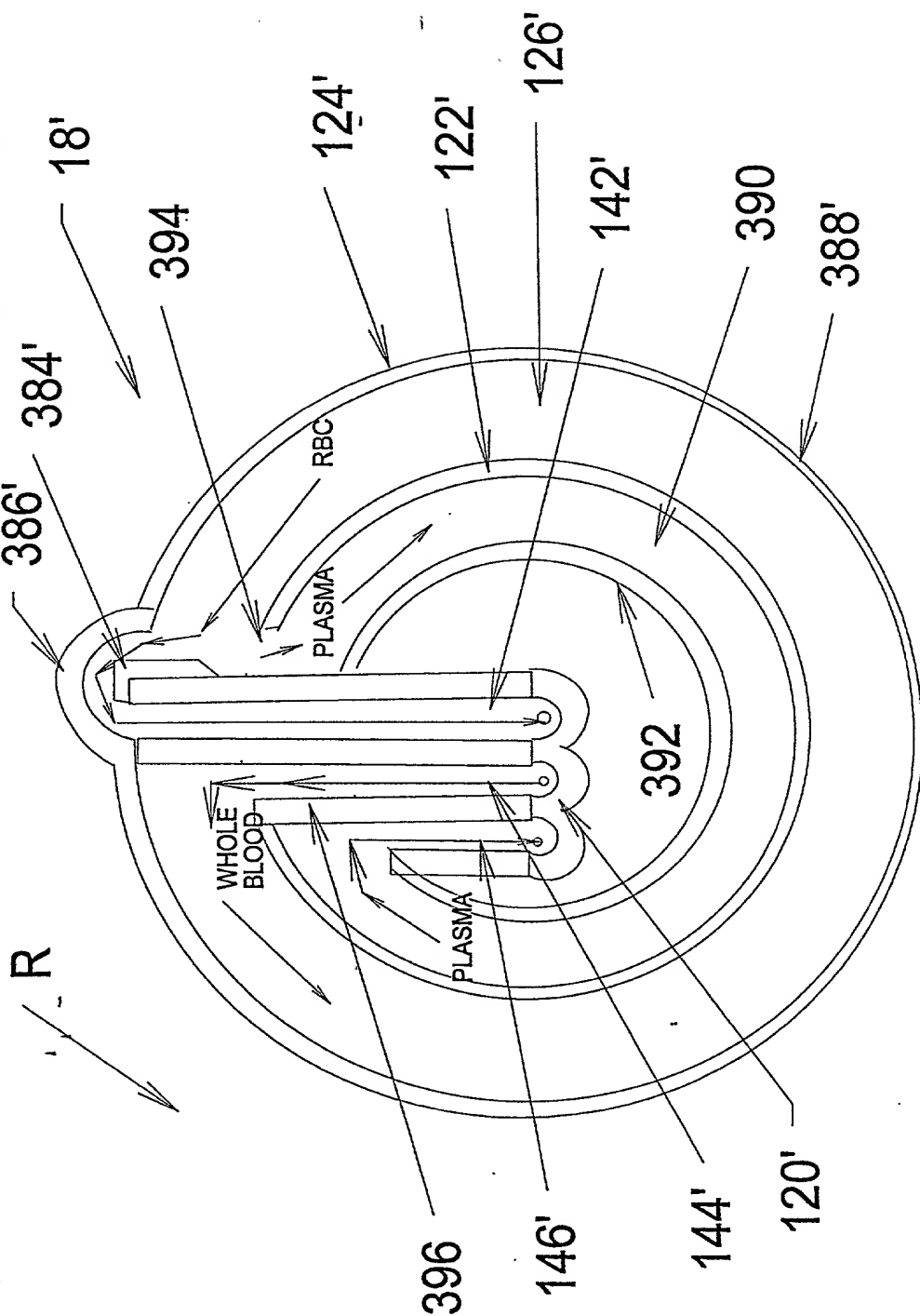
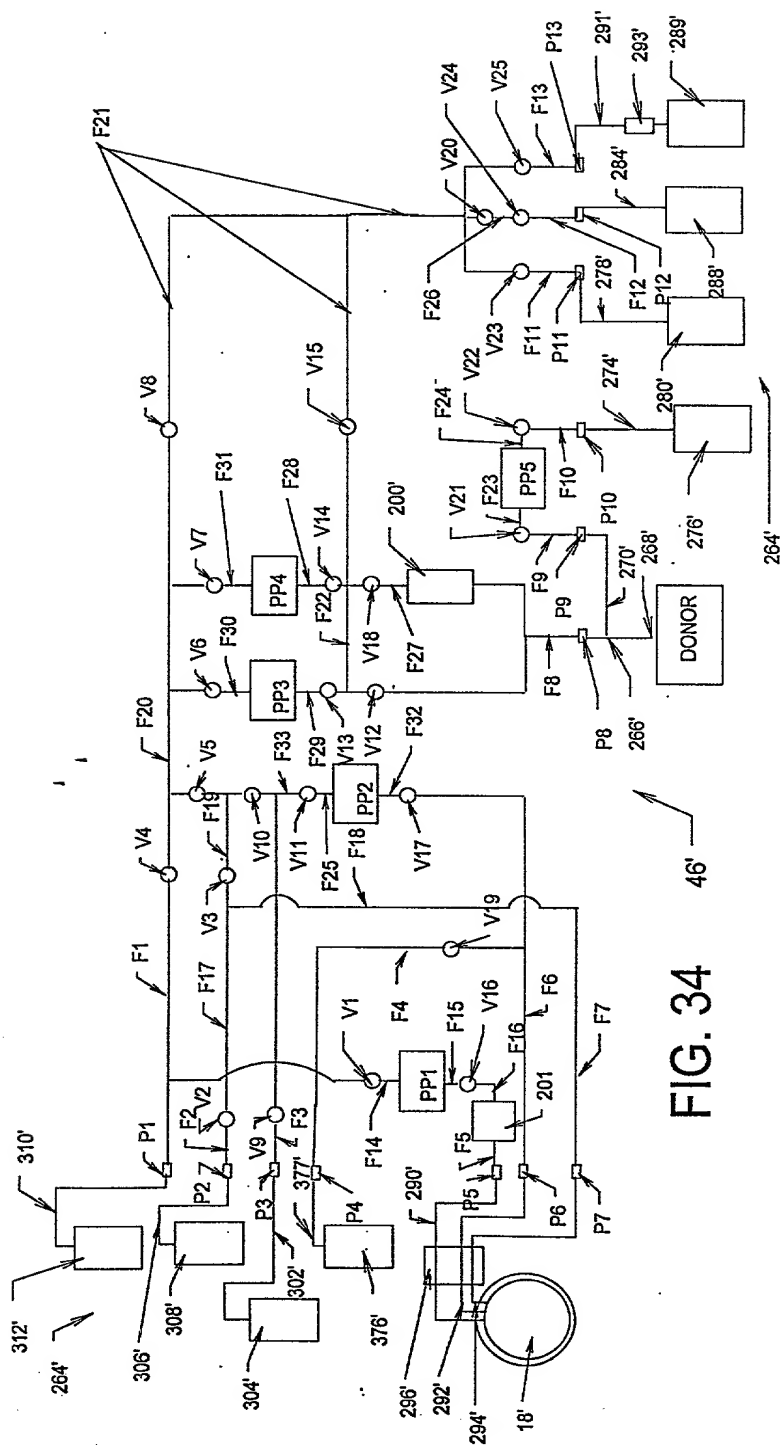
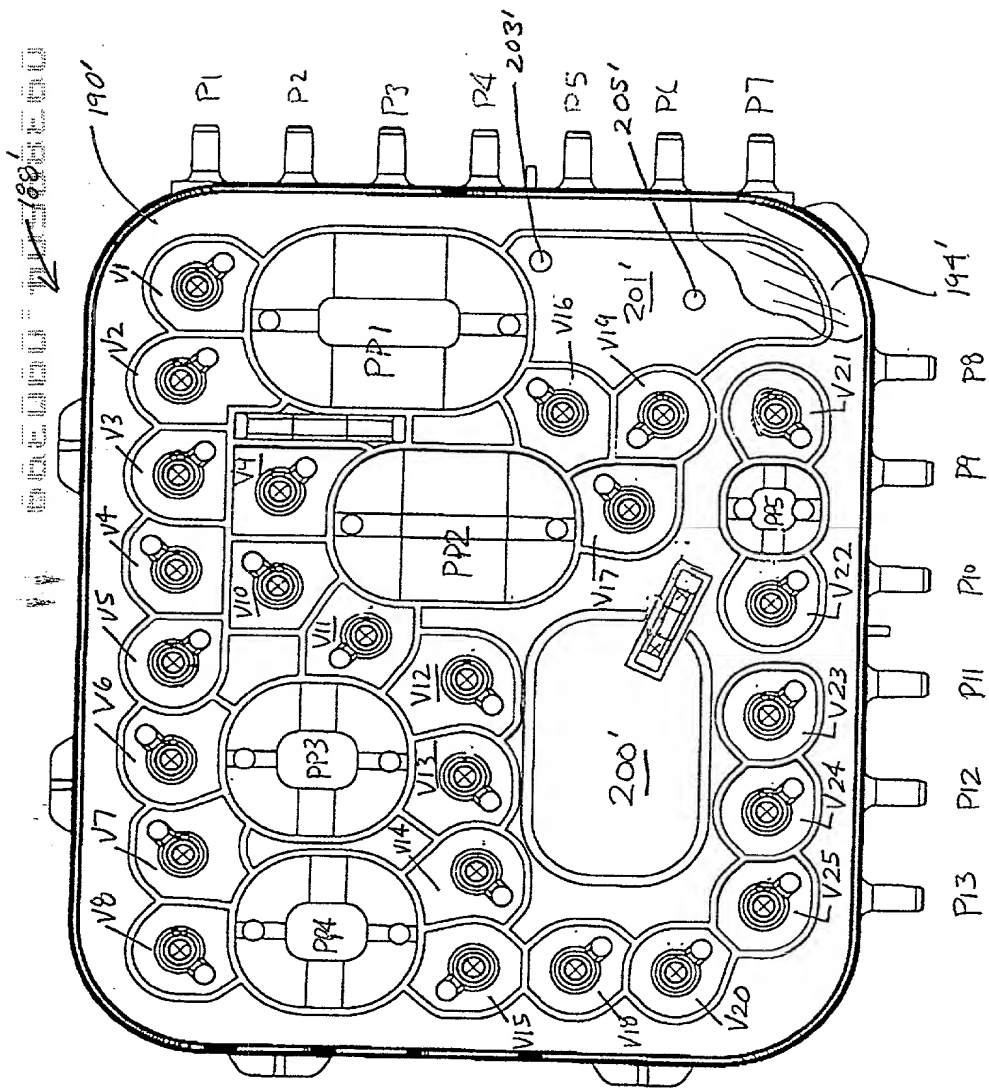


FIG. 33







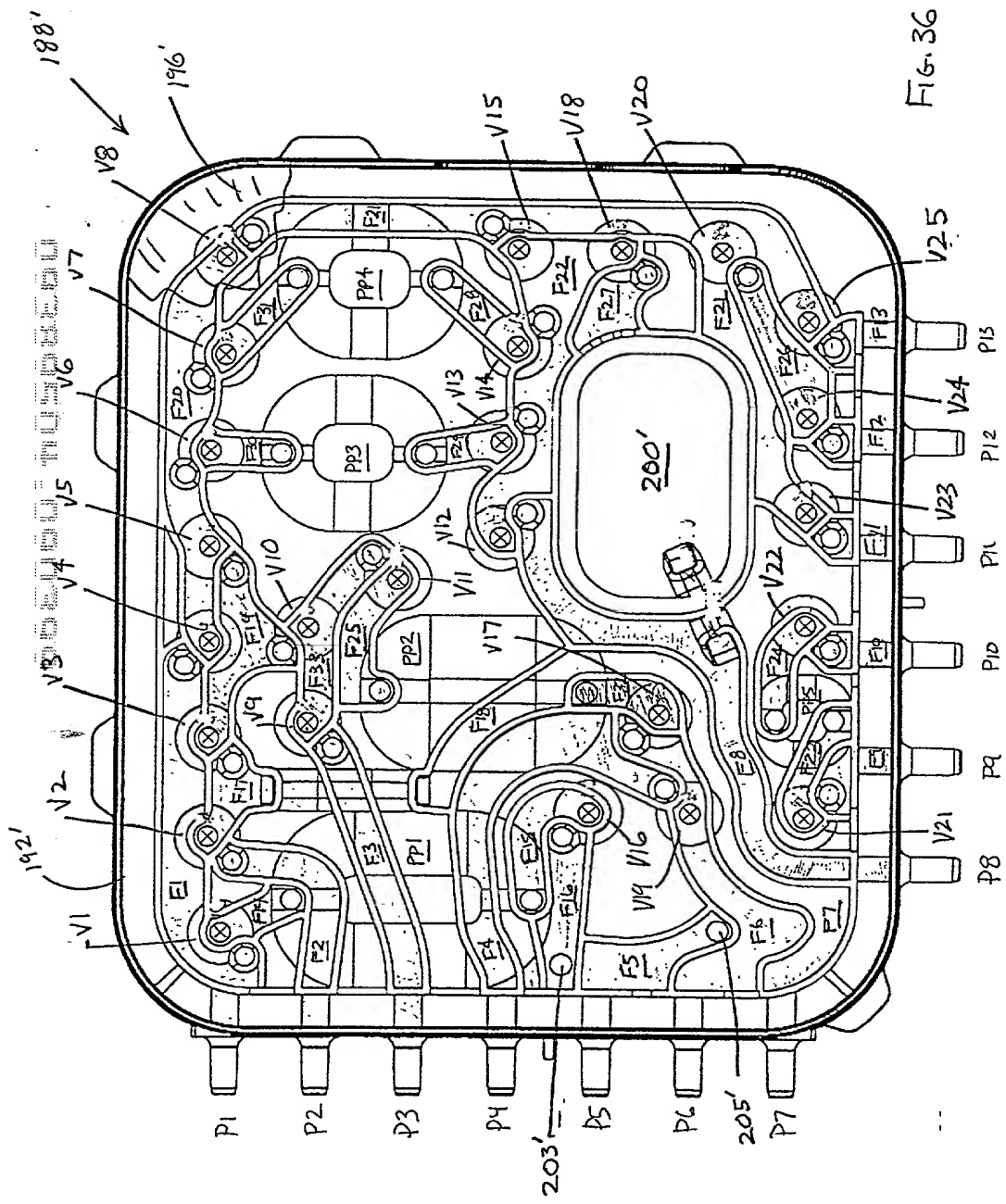


Fig. 36

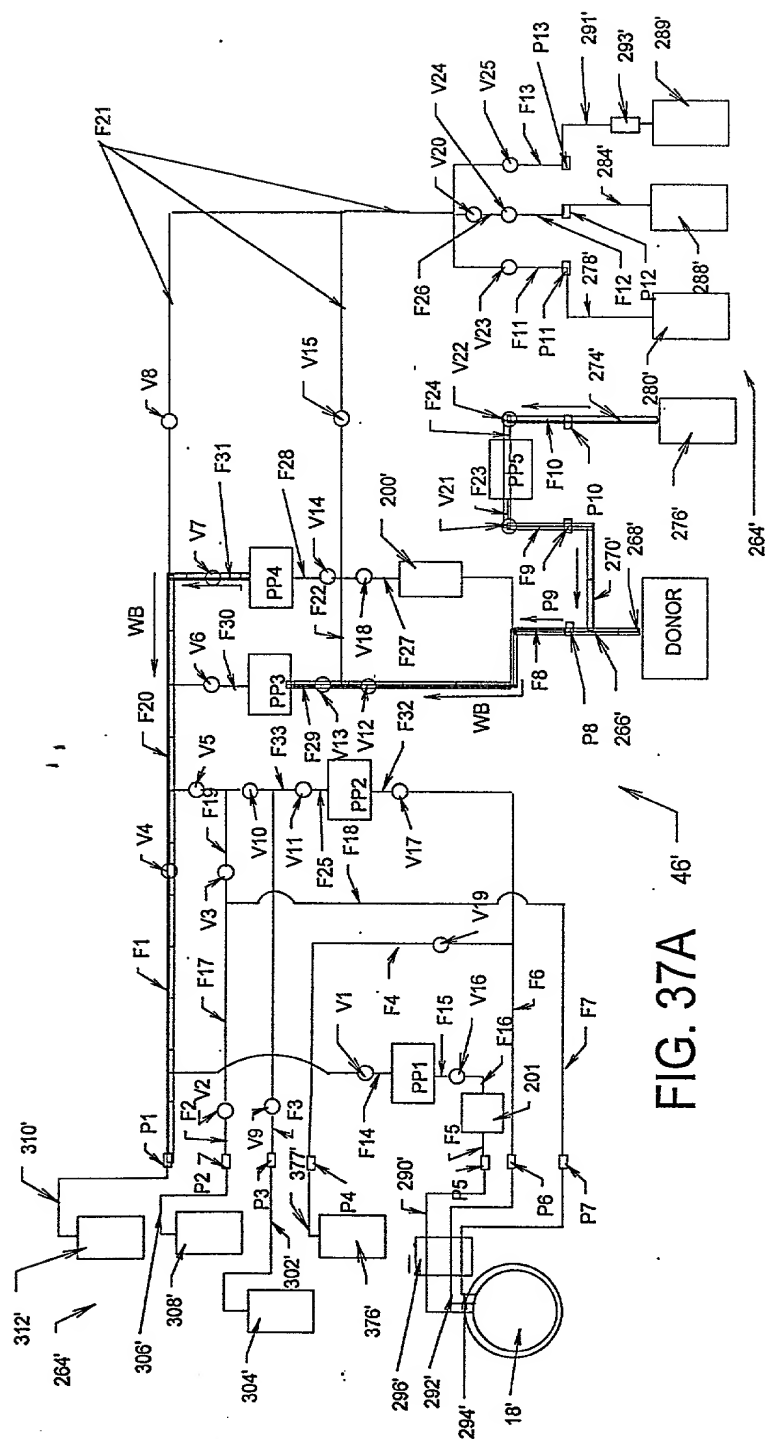


FIG. 37A

46'

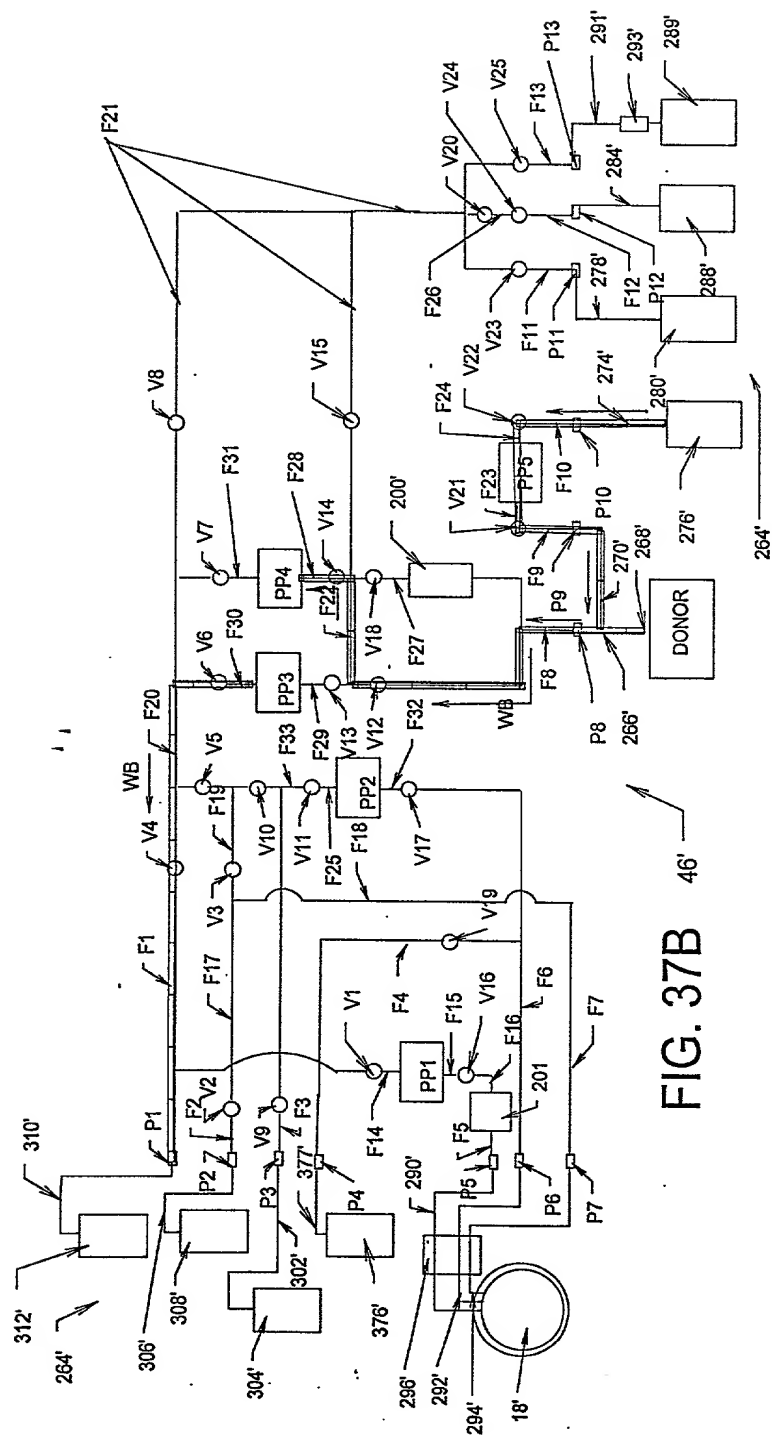


FIG. 37B

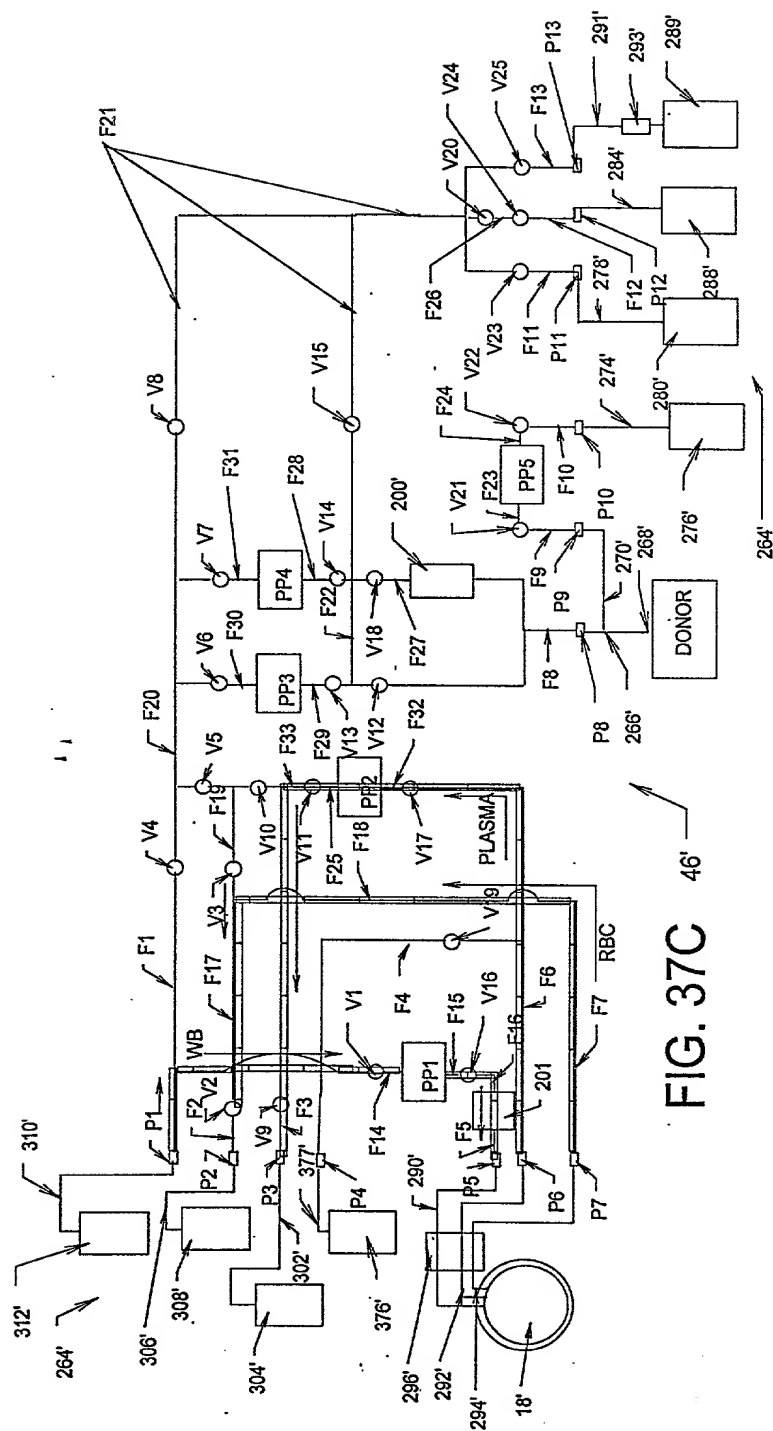
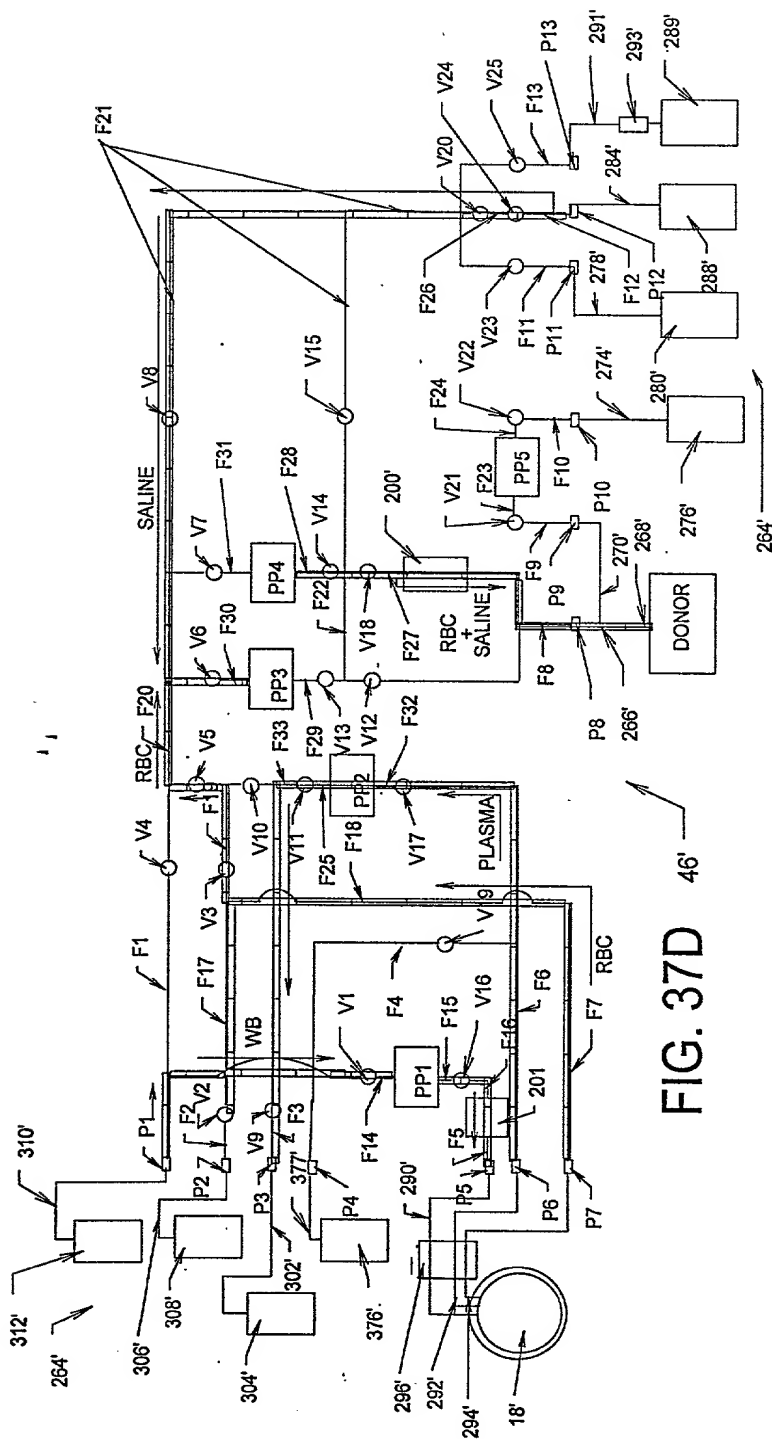


FIG. 37C 46'



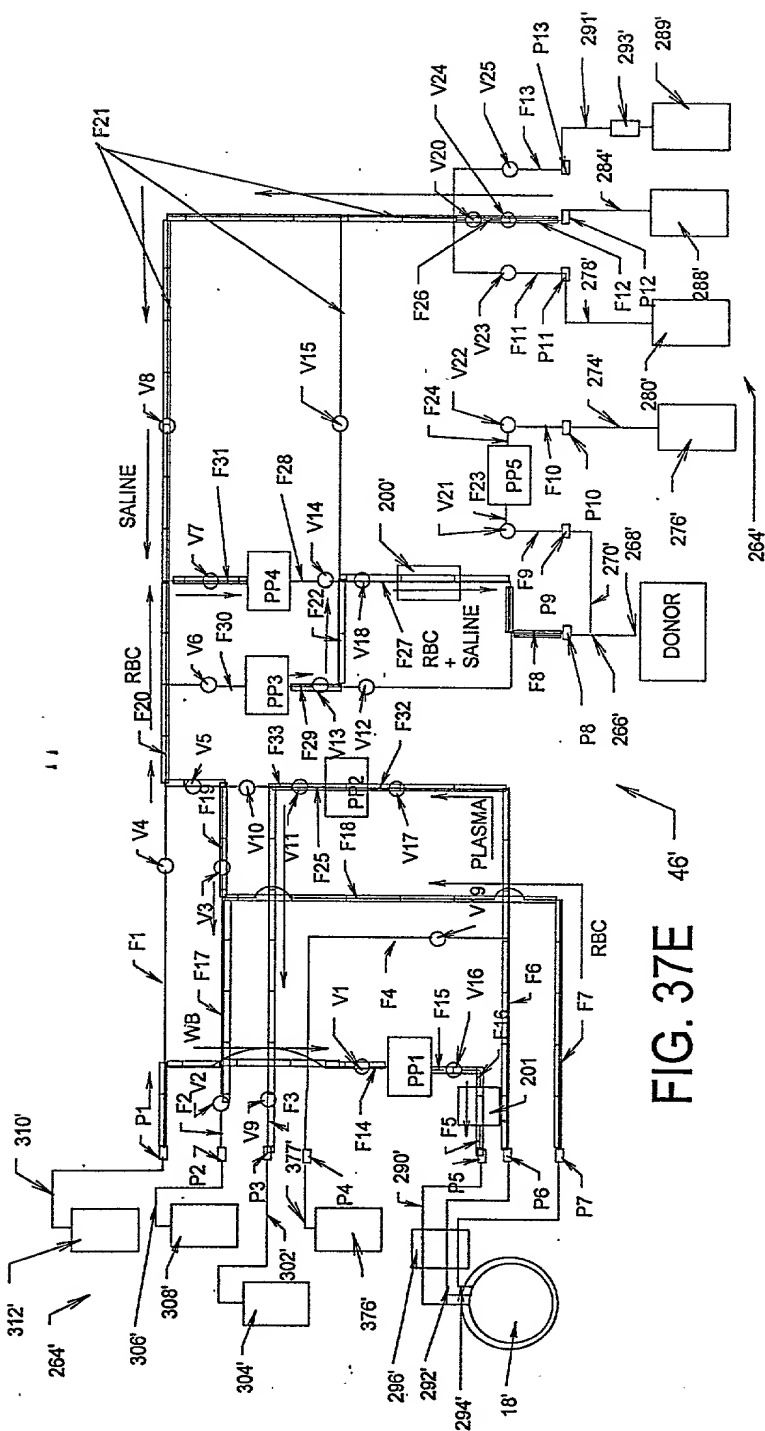


FIG. 37E

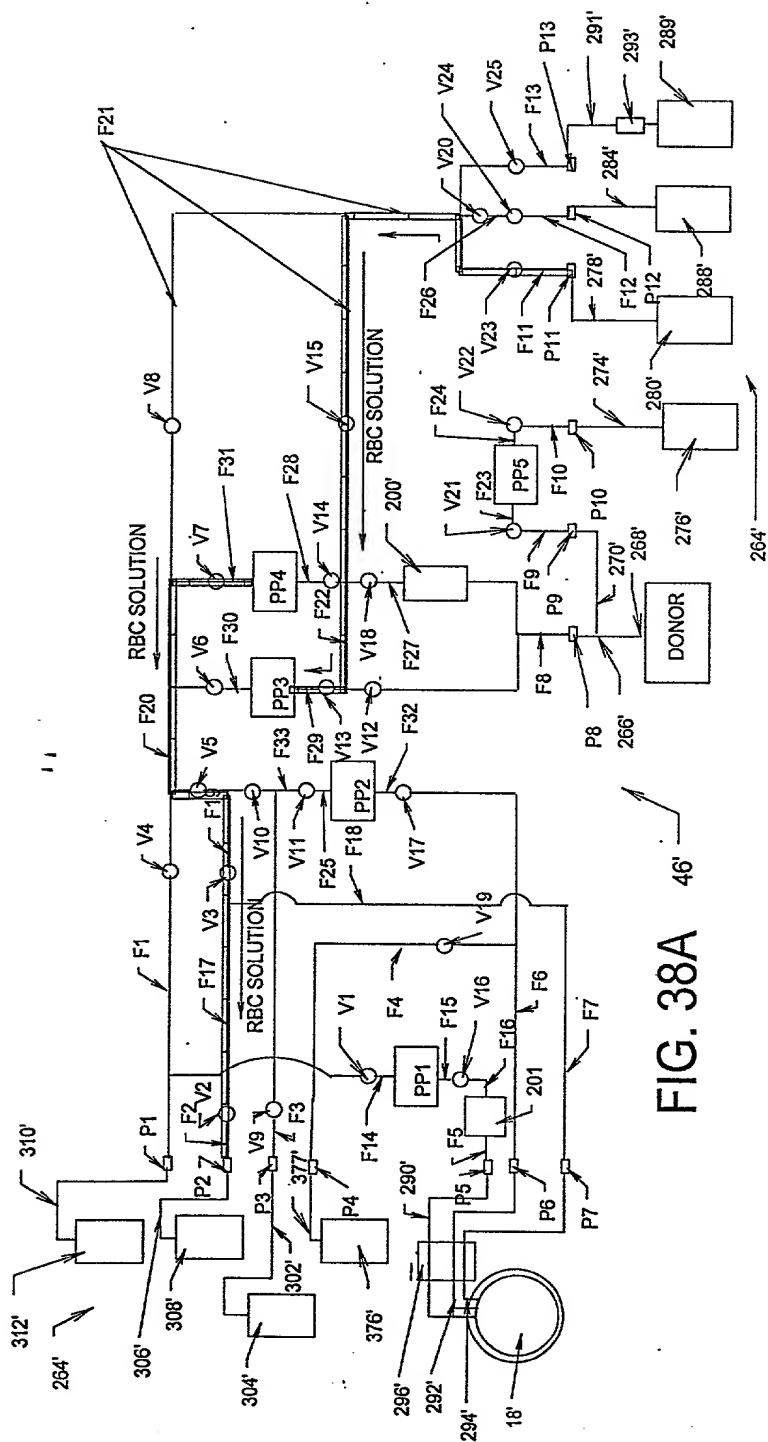


FIG. 38A

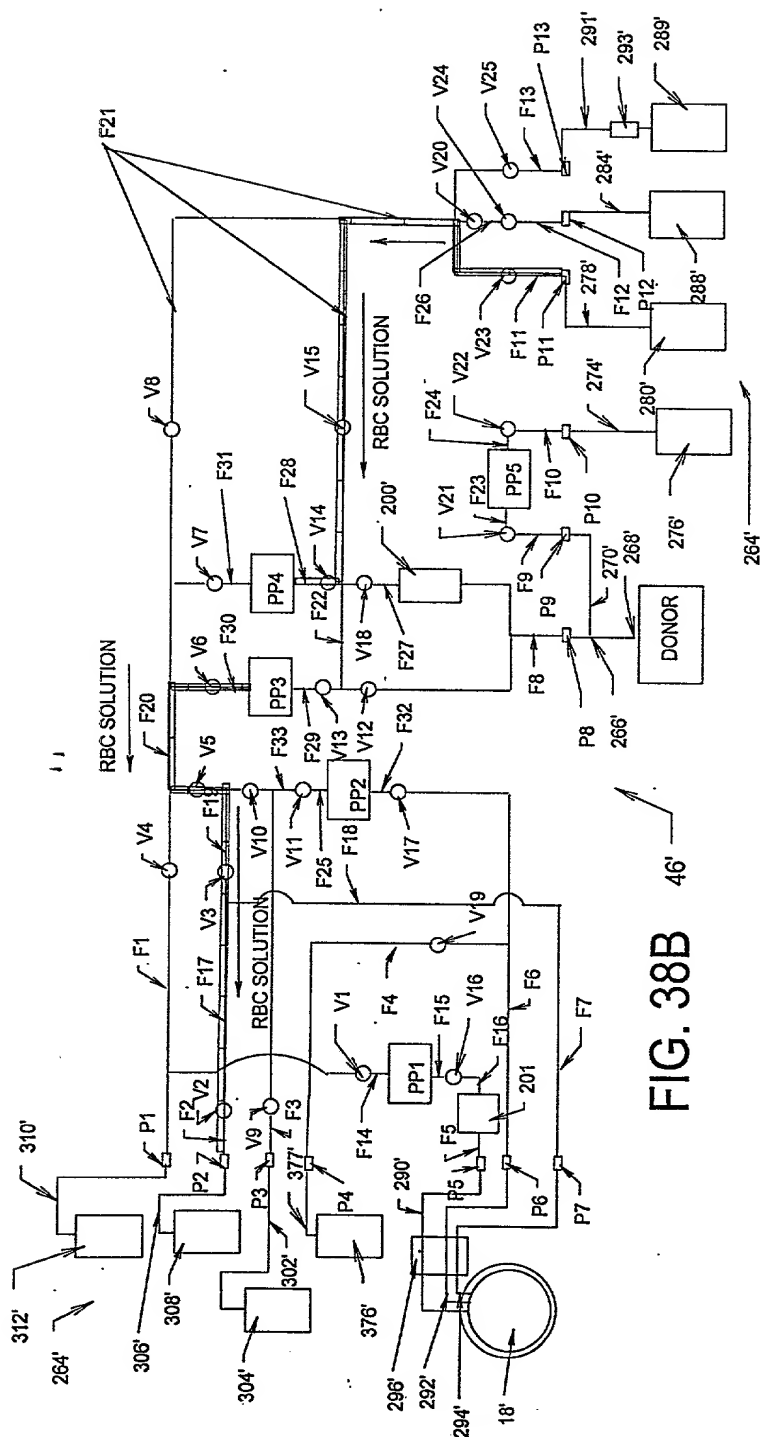


FIG. 38B

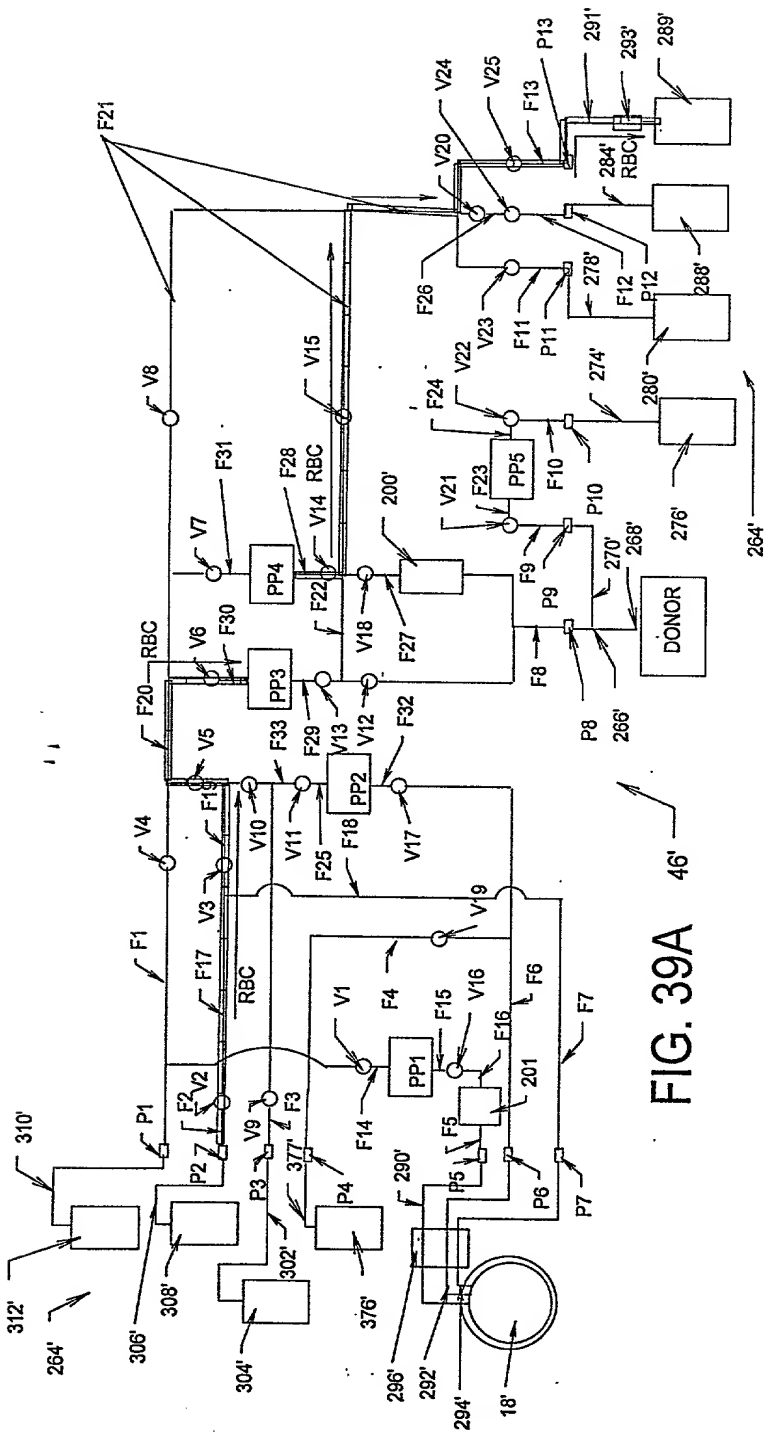
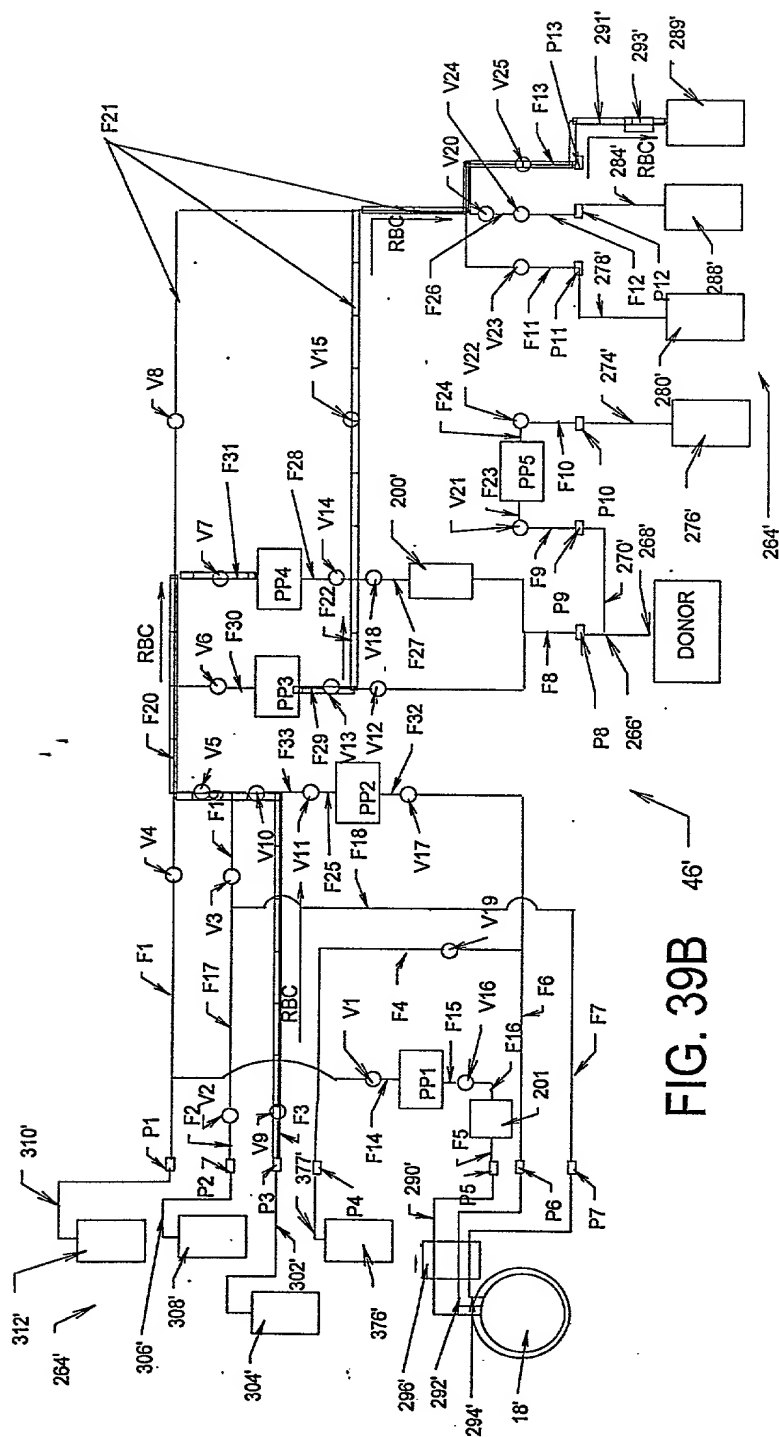


FIG. 39A

46'



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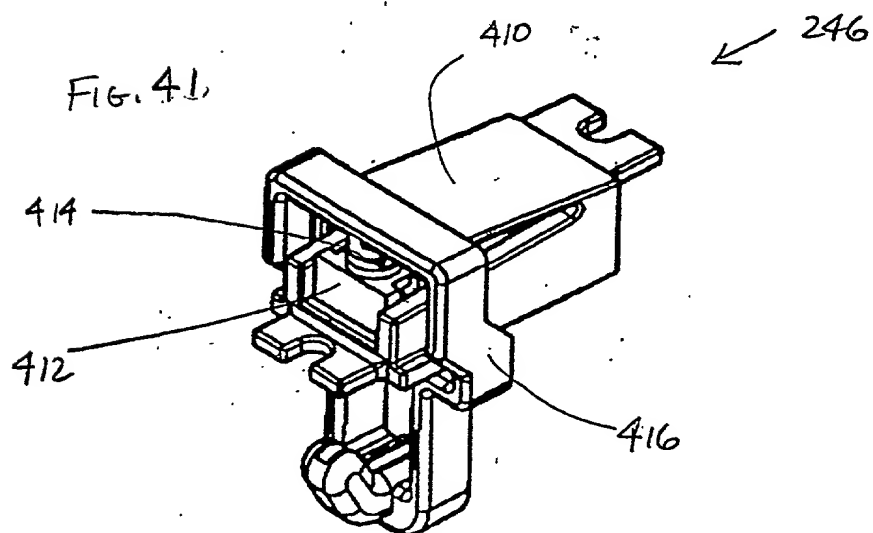
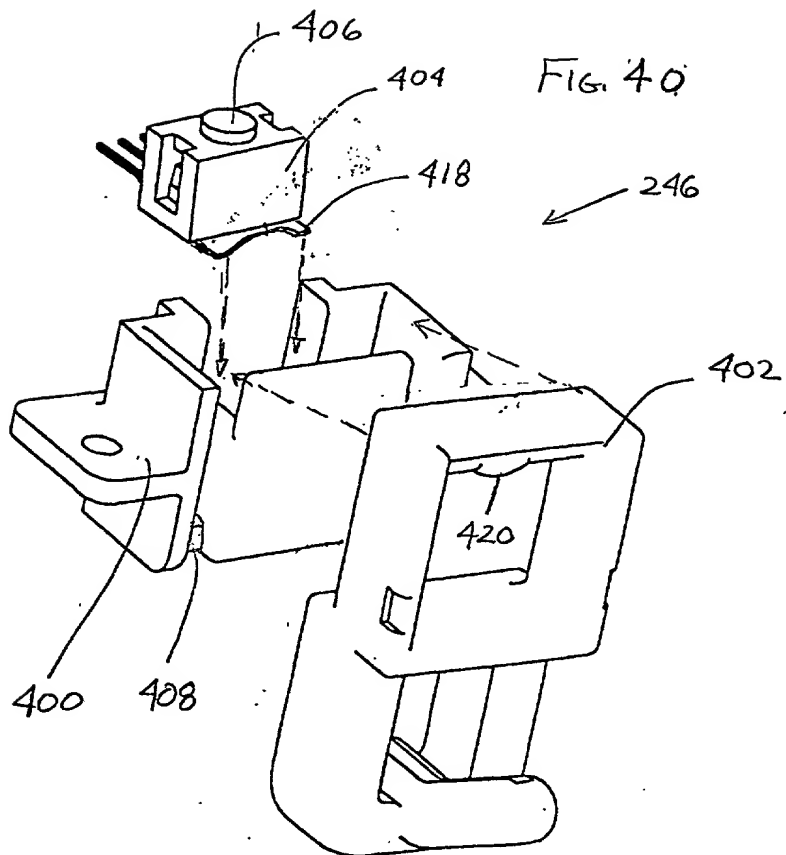


FIG. 42

